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the rights of
mankind?

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THE INDEPENDENT

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FRIDAY 24 MAY 1996

WEATHER Dry and bright after some early rain 40p (IR 45p)

Tories lay plans for election as spending figures raise Major's hopes

Yes, the boom is coming

DIANE COYLE,
JOHN RENTOUX
and DONALD MACINTYRE

A consumer mini-boom will be under way within months, figures released yesterday show. They gave John Major one of the strongest signs yet that he could be reaping the electoral benefits of economic recovery by the autumn.

The prospect of good times to come was held out by figures showing that growth in consumer spending in the first three months of 1996 was the fastest for more than two years.

Total consumer spending rose 0.8 per cent in the first quarter of this year, the biggest advance since the end of 1993.

Growth in the underlying volume of spending on the high street recovered to 2.2 per cent, the fastest for just over a year. The pace of retail sales growth was even faster in some important sectors, such as household goods, clothes shops and department stores.

In a separate survey, the House Builders' Federation said market conditions for new house-building were the best since 1994. Almost three-quarters of members expect an increase in sales this year.

The combined evidence suggests the economy will increasingly help the Government's hopes of re-election. Although separate figures showed that manufacturing industry remains stuck in the doldrums, most economists think growth will have built up a head of steam by the autumn.

While the Tory high command continues to insist it prefers a spring election, the new economic figures will inject hope into the party of its electoral chances if it is forced to go to the country in the autumn, by a defeat in a Commons confidence vote, for example.

Tory strategists dismiss the idea that Mr Major would voluntarily seek an autumn election unless there was a dramatic leap

in the party's opinion-poll rating, now languishing 25 points below Labour. Mr Major has also let it be known he does not intend to call a snap "beef election" on the back of his plans to disrupt Brussels business.

But Brian Mawhinney, the Tory chairman, has continued to urge key party figures to maintain contingency plans for an autumn election.

Well-advised campaign plans include setting up a top-level secret committee, including Maurice Saatchi; head of M&C Saatchi, the Tory party's

advertising agency. Sir Tim Bell, the public relations guru to Baroness Thatcher when she was prime minister, Tim Collins, the party's former director of communications and a close Major adviser and Peter Gummer, chairman of the PR firm, Shandwick, brother of the Secretary of State for the Environment.

The latest signs of recovery do not yet show the impact of last month's tax cuts. These delivered the biggest boost to spending power since Nigel Lawson cut the basic rate of income tax to 20p a decade ago, according to official figures last week.

However, the weakness in industry, reflected in a drop in exports and slower stock building in the first quarter of this year, is likely to keep the overall pace of economic expansion modest. The Treasury has downgraded its internal forecast for GDP growth this year from 3 per cent to 2.5 per cent.

Tory strategists said yesterday that there was a clear decision that next spring was the optimum time for an election.

But an unresolved discussion has already taken place over whether it would be preferable, in the event of an autumn election, to hold it in September-October and thus cancel the party conference, with the two main opposition parties being denied a pre-election platform, or late October-November, using the Tory conference as a launchpad.

Creating fear, page 3
Tarnished boomer, page 22

Mr Major urged the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, not to



All smiles: John Major meets schoolchildren in Downing Street yesterday. Economic revival may boost the Tories

Photograph: Edward Sykes

Sweeter whisky leaves a sour taste

NIGEL COPE

It is a decision that will have traditional Scotsmen choking on their single malts. A leading Scotch whisky distillery is to tamper with the taste of the amber fluid in a bid to woo a female audience.

In September, Glenmorangie will launch three new "flavours" of whisky which will come with a hint of port, sherry or Madeira. The distiller feels the slightly sweetened taste, or "expression" as the industry calls it, will boost Scotch sales among women who have traditionally shunned whisky in favour of other tipples.

The marketing ploy is the latest in an increasingly uphill battle to halt the decline of Scotch sales in Britain. Hit by a combination of increased competition, high taxes and more moderate drinking habits, the industry is now going on the offensive to seek a younger, wider target market. Glenmorangie will take its 12-

year-old Scotch, which is brewed in the traditional casks, and transfer it to port, Madeira or sherry casks for the last two years to give the Scotch a slightly different finish. All three will be priced at £25.

Glenmorangie's chairman, Geoffrey Maddrell said: "The drinks have very different tastes and we hope they will appeal to women who tended to steer clear of Scotch in the past."

Alan Gray, an investment analyst at Sutherland & Partners in Edinburgh, said the industry badly needed to "add some razzazzazz" to boost sales.

John Wakeley, a drinks analyst at Lehman Brothers stockbrokers, questioned the wisdom of targeting women drinkers.

"The trouble is that if you try to feminise a standard product like beer or whisky, you risk alienating the traditional consumer." He added: "You don't need to flavour the damn thing. You just need to teach them [women] to drink it differently, like with Coke."

Mr Howard's idea of introducing minimum sentences without regard to gravity, consequences or circumstances on a third-time drug traf-

Howard punished in each sentence

It was an extraordinary day in the history of English criminal law.

Rarely in its history has a serving Lord Chief Justice been so driven to attack a Home Secretary as Lord Taylor of Gosforth did yesterday. Quietly but publicly shredding Michael Howard's proposals for heavier and mandatory sentencing, he and mandatory sentencing, he was heard by a sombre and silent House of Lords aware of his personal tragedy.

Lord Taylor, who is being forced into premature retirement at the age of 66 through cancer, and Mr Howard, his adversary, both went out of their way yesterday to avoid any suggestion of personal animosity between them.

But then the Lord Chief Justice, erect and flanked by his fellow critics Lord Donaldson and Lord Woolf, who studied very closely one of the worst juries in memory, never needed to resort to it.

Mr Howard's idea of introducing minimum sentences according to the justice of each individual case, courts would take sentences off the shelf. In the case of the mandatory imposition of a seven-year sentence on a third-time drug traf-

"quite simply, must involve a denial of justice".

For Lord Taylor this was an historic moment: "Never in the history of our criminal law have such far-reaching proposals been put forward on the strength of such flimsy and dubious evidence."

Mr Howard insisted in a radio interview yesterday that his overriding responsibility was to give the ordinary citizens of Britain the protection they needed and deserved from the activities of dangerous and persistent criminals. But from the other end of an unbridgeable chasm, Lord Taylor spoke of the "enormity of the provisions".

By the end of the day, there was little doubt who had won the argument. The function of the court would be subverted by the proposals, Lord Taylor said.

Instead of sentencing according to the justice of each individual case, courts would take sentences off the shelf. In the case of the mandatory imposition of a seven-year sentence on a third-time drug traf-

being put in prison for a substantial period".

As to second-time violent and sexual offenders, Mr Howard had highlighted the fact that in 1994, of 217 offenders convicted of a second or subsequent serious violent or sexual offence, only 10 had received life. "He did not say how many the Attorney General had referred to the Court of Appeal as being unduly lenient. Presumably, the Home Secretary thinks he should have referred all 207. In fact, he referred only six."

There was a very real public concern that a tiny minority of dangerous criminals could be released when they presented an unacceptable risk. One solution would be to revisit the 1975 Butler Committee for a reviewable sentence. It was not possible to justify doubling the number of life sentences simply by "scaremongering" about a very small number of offenders.

And lastly, who had said this: "The Government rejects a rigid statutory framework on the

lines of those introduced in the United States or a system of minimum or mandatory life sentences for certain offences.

It would also result in more acquittals by juries with more guilty men and women going free unjustly as a result".

"Those words are not mine. They come from a Government White Paper some five years ago. They are self-evidently wise, fair and just."

With those devastating words Lord Taylor delivered his parting shot as Lord Chief Justice of England. He sat down among his colleagues, looking fleetingly exhausted. Whether minds have been changed remains to be seen, but it was a performance the English justice system will long remember.

Judicial warning, page 21
Judicial shake-up, page 21

QUICKLY

Beef ban war

British demands that the European Union produce an action plan for the lifting of the beef ban look certain to be rejected, despite a government claim yesterday that its non-cooperation policy was "already biting".

£23m grant for RADA

The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art received nearly £23m from National Lottery cash yesterday.

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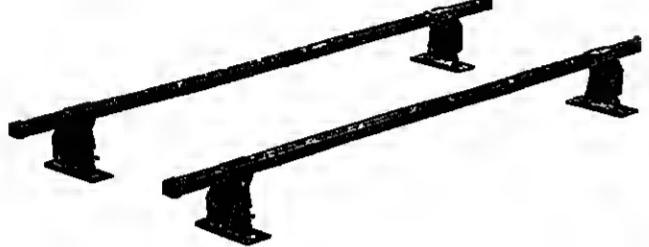
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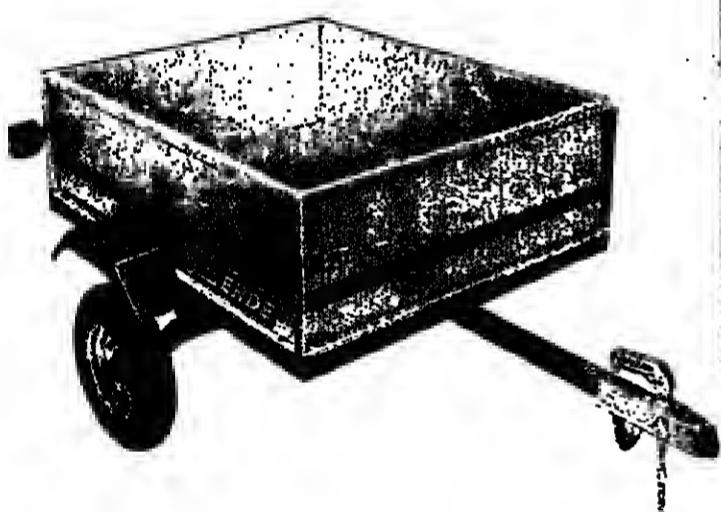
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news

BBC news faces cuts to finance digital TV

MATHEW HORSMAN
Media Editor

The BBC plans sweeping budget cuts of 30 per cent over five years in its news and current affairs operation, in order to finance the launch of digital TV this month.

In addition to the new 24-hour news channel, the corporation promised extended services, subscription channels and improved sound and picture quality.

Annoncing the new services, John Birt, the BBC's director-general, conceded that the high costs of going digital would have to be met partly through what he called "increased efficiency". It is expected that other sections of the BBC will also be asked to cut their budgets in anticipation of the move to digital TV.

"This will spell bad news for BBC's schedule, including Panorama and other flagship programmes," warned one senior journalist.

But the BBC defended the cuts, which will help pay for the introduction of a new 24-hour news channel. "We are now entering a very competitive age, with more competition from specialist channels," a BBC news and current affairs spokesman said. "It's a question of survival."

He refused to rule out compulsory redundancies, but stressed that the corporation would retain staff to operate more efficiently in the digital age.

Virtually all parts of the current budget of £190m will be affected, staff were told. News-gathering will see its funding frozen over five years, resulting in 15 per cent reduction in real terms, after anticipated inflation.

Production operations will see the deepest cuts, following the introduction of new technology that will allow journalists to prepare programmes at a digital workstation.

"We must be more efficient and we must be able to deliver even more programme-

ming on a restrained budget," the spokesman said.

The cuts are the first sign of the price the BBC will pay to introduce its ambitious blueprint for the digital age, unveiled earlier this month.

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The BBC's all-news channel is believed to be budgeted at about £15m a year, about half the amount spent by Sky News. "With this kind of money, there will be more interviews and far less reporting and analysis," a senior broadcast journalist claimed last night.

Today, however, Britain is becoming ever ruder. And the decline in manners may be an even greater problem than crime, according to a book published by a right-wing think-tank today.

Its authors claim loutishness

on the streets, slovenly and aggressive dress, cheating sportsmen and parents aping the style of teenagers point to a crisis in manners which is having a destructive effect on society.

And they argue that "clumsy codes of political correctness are no replacement for old-fashioned good manners" when it comes to "civilising men's treatment of women, the young's be-

haviour to the elderly, or even smokers' treatment of non-smokers".

Dr Digby Anderson, the director of the Social Affairs Unit and the book's editor, said: "Though bad manners are apparently trivial, they occur far more frequently than crime, making everyday life unpredictable, untidy and unpleasant."

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Rachel Trickey, the former principal of St Hugh's College, Oxford, argues that feminists

have wrongly derided the posi-

tion of the word "lady". She said: "When courtesy disappears, a condition of primitivism prevails... (Then) men will inevitably prevail for the simple biological reason that they are stronger... Women, without some code of deference or respect, become increasingly victims."

Athena S. Leonti sees the "utilitarian attitude to dress"

epitomised by the introduction of "denim trousers" as leading to the "cultural impoverishment of everyday life". Wearing jeans clothes to the supermarket is a "moral transgression".

Meanwhile, the professionalism of sports like cricket is undermining its "civilising ethos" rather than creating gentlemen as in times past, claims Simon Green.

Kath Davies, of the Women's National Commission, said the ideas were "pernicious" and a divergence from real issues. Real respect came in accepting diversity in a caring society. "This seems to be another example of looking to a golden age that never was," she said.

Lord Young of Dartington, founder of the Consumers' Association and a recent father at 80, was incensed by the authors' argument that a refusal of old people to act their age had contributed to the problem. "Their view is the conventional view of an ageing bureaucratic world which requires everyone to fit into certain moulds," he said.

Many agreed that manners were not what they had been. The Duke of Devonshire, patron-in-chief of the Polite Society, said it was "depressing" and he deplored it. "But I have no solutions."

Charles Kidd, of Debrett's

iron of the Polite Society, is surprised when people "deliberately dress down" at social functions.

For men, is possible rudeness worse than sexism when it comes to door-opening? Is there an etiquette for answerphones and e-mail?

Charles Kidd, of Debrett's

Rosie Boycott, editor of *Esquire*, says road rage is the most obvious example of tatty manners. Dame Barbara Cartland, the 94-year-old author of romantic fiction, is appalled when men do not open the door for her and horrified when they reveal who they have bedded.

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news

Changes in education: NUT steps up pressure over primary league tables as teachers refuse to exclude a violent pupil

Governors urged to break law on results

FRAN ABRAMS
Education Correspondent

Pressure on school governors to break the law by boycotting school league tables for 11-year-olds intensified yesterday as Britain's biggest teaching union launched a campaign for non-co-operation.

The National Union of Teachers is writing to 14,000 chairmen of governing bodies, asking them to withhold the results of the tests, which took place last week. The move is bound to strengthen the position of the National Association of Head Teachers, whose members hope to persuade governors to disrupt the publication of the marks.

By law, both heads and governors have to co-operate in providing the test results to

the Department for Education and Employment by the end of July. The unions argue that while heads could face the sack if they boycott the new league tables, ministers would be unlikely to take legal action against governors.

Both teachers and governors protested when Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, announced in February that there would be league tables for 11-year-olds in spring 1997. Just 10 days earlier, she had said that the tests needed more time to "bed down" before their results were published.

Yesterday Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that Mrs Shephard had caved in to pressure from right-wingers in the Tory party.

"If there was a significant number of schools [boycotting the tests], she would be very pleased, as she would be able to go to the Cabinet and say that she got it right."

"Any huffing and puffing about the law would be fairly empty — these are the people that they want to continue as governors," he said.

The two national governors' associations have been divided over the proposed boycott. The National Association of Governors and Managers has advised its members not to break the law, but the National Governors' Council has written to Mrs Shephard asking her to abandon the tables and seeking an urgent meeting.

Its vice chairman, Jack Morrist, said no one was looking for an excuse to break the law but

added that previous test boycotts had not led to any legal action against schools. "We have to recognise that there was that precedent," he said.

Mrs Shephard said she had no intention of reversing her decision to publish results of the tests, which took place last week. "Parents and the wider public have a right to be able to compare the performance of schools," she said in a statement.

Mrs Shephard said she had changed her mind because of evidence that 11-year-olds were underachieving. The results of last year's tests showed that only about half of the age group reached a standard which should stretch them in English and maths, and the Chief Inspector of Schools had noted a dip in achievement in the later primary years, she added.



Term time: Graham Cram returning to school after successfully appealing against his expulsion. Photograph: News Team

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Teachers of Cram boy 'not to act' on other violent pupil

Teachers who threatened to strike over a boy who hit a member of staff are unlikely to take action over a child who attacked another pupil, it emerged yesterday, writes Fran Abrams.

The two boys, 13-year-old Graham Cram and a 14-year-old who has not been named, were both expelled from Hebburn Comprehensive in South Tyneside and were both remanded by an appeals panel.

In the first case, Graham, who allegedly kicked a teacher, was allowed back to school earlier this month but taught in isolation after staff threatened industrial action. Governors are due to meet to discuss the second case, but the boy is expected to return to lessons.

Yesterday the general secretary of the union which threatened to strike said staff were unlikely to take action over the second boy because he had attacked a pupil rather than a teacher.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT), said that the law might not recognise action in defence of pupils as a legitimate trade dispute.

"The staff at the school haven't actually come to us requesting any industrial action because this was pupil-on-pupil violence. The kid involved didn't disrupt his class."

"Although in many cases we would like to take action to defend pupils, we need to be certain that the law would allow us to," he said.

The two cases have caused anger among both teachers and parents. Margaret Morrissey, spokeswoman for the National Federation of Parent Teacher Associations, said the protection of pupils was just as important as that of teachers.

"I would hope the NASUWT or any other union would take this just as seriously if it does when a pupil attacks a teacher. We will look with interest to see what its reaction will be."

The school's head teacher, Madelaine Watson, was not available for comment yesterday.

■ Disruptive pupils usually blame their classmates for their behaviour, according to research published yesterday. Interviews with 160 children carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research revealed that most felt either that they had been goaded into bad behaviour or that they did it to impress their friends. Bad relationships with teachers, boring lessons, family problems and bullying were also mentioned as causes. The research officer in charge of the project, Kay Kinder, said vocational courses which might be more relevant to these pupils could help to improve their behaviour.

Ex-soldier jailed for life after 'gay hatred' attack

JOJO MOYES

A former soldier who warned that gay men would never be safe from him was jailed for life at the Old Bailey yesterday, for the attempted murder of a man who picked him up in a bar.

George Rees, was left with a "fester of hatred" of homosexuals after he suffered homosexual rape and was "bullied, tortured and abused" during his career in the Blues and Royals Cavalry Regiment, the court heard.

Passing sentence, Judge Richard Hawkings QC, said the "very dangerous" 39-year-old squaddie was motivated by "homophobia and a desire to steal".

"You said you were quite prepared to kill as many gay men as possible," he said, adding that prison authorities should bear in mind medical reports showing that Rees posed a threat to other prisoners.

As he was led from the dock, Rees, who pleaded guilty to a charge of attempted murder, smiled at the judge and said: "Perhaps I will be out in time for Manchester City to come back to the Premier League. Thank you. Have a nice day."

The court had heard that Rees, who left the army in 1972, met Tony Grundy in a bar in central London last October. Over drinks they "discussed homosexuality and the former soldier's experiences in the Army", said Peter Kyte QC, prosecuting. Mr Grundy then invited him back to his luxury flat.

Under the "plain impression" they were going to have sex, Mr Grundy began leading

the way to the bedroom when he felt the point of a knife in his back. Rees, originally from Moss Side, Manchester, stripped and bound Mr Grundy and goaded him about his sexuality before stabbing him three times.

Holding the knife to his jugular, he told his victim: "You are bleeding to death. You won't die yet — you have 20 minutes. Your only chance is to give me cash."

After Rees left with his valuables, Mr Grundy managed to stagger to a neighbour's flat to raise the alarm. He lost four pints of blood and gave police a graphic account of "feeling bubbles in his breathing", but he was saved by emergency surgery.

Rees, already on the run from a six-and-a-half year robbery sentence, was arrested shortly afterwards and immediately confessed. He was "stunned" to hear Mr Grundy was still alive, as he had been "aiming for the heart".

In a statement, Rees said: "In my heart of hearts I had done something which I knew had been coming for a long, long time. After the stabbing I felt a great sense of relief. He epitomised everything I had gone through 20 years ago."

He told police he had also wanted to kill actor and gay activist Michael Cashman for his campaign to end the ban on homosexuals in the armed forces.

"It was very worrying, especially as the police said they believed he had every intention of carrying out his threat," Mr Cashman said after the hearing.



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8 politics

Crime debate: In his final speech, Lord Chief Justice says proposals for minimum sentences are based on 'flimsy evidence'

Lord Taylor warns against Howard's plans

"Never in the history of our criminal law have such far-reaching proposals been put forward on the strength of such flimsy and dubious evidence," the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, told peers yesterday.

Lord Taylor, who is retiring because he is suffering from cancer, used his final speech in the Upper House to warn of the "very grave consequences" if the Government enacted its plans for minimum sentences for repeat offenders.

Opening a debate on the Home Secretary's White Paper, *Protecting the Public*, which proposes minimum sentences for persistent burglars, drug dealers and rapists, he said: "The shallow and untested figures in the White Paper do not describe fairly and clearly the problems the Government seeks to address - still less do they justify the radical 'solutions' it proposes."

To a blunt appeal to Michael Howard to think again, he said: "Quite simply, minimum sentences must involve a denial of justice."

"It cannot be right for sentences to be passed without regard to the gravity, frequency, consequences or other circumstances of the offending."

"To sentence a burglar automatically to a minimum of three years on a third conviction is to take no account of whether he is before the court for only three offences or 30, whether they involved sophisticated planning or drunken opportunism ..."

"To impose a minimum sentence of seven years on those

convicted for the third time of trafficking in prescribed drugs will simply fill our prisons with addicts who sell small quantities to support their own addiction."

He said the "escape clause" - allowing the court to depart from the tariff in exceptional cases - would be the "worst of both worlds".

It subverted the function of the court, which was to sentence according to the justice of each individual case.

He mocked Mr Howard's



Lord Taylor: Succeeded today by Sir Thomas Bingham, he yesterday appealed for a rethink on sentence tariffs

Photograph: Geraint Lewis

claim yesterday that 207 out of 217 convictions for second serious violent or sexual offences in 1994 had not led to life sentences. "Presumably, the Home Secretary thinks [the Attorney General] should have referred all 207 ... to the Court of Appeal as being unduly lenient. In fact he referred only six. The problem is therefore nothing like as great as the White Paper makes out," he said.

Lord Taylor quoted with relish from a 1990 White Paper which said: "The Government rejects ... a system of minimum or mandatory life sentences for certain offences" because "more guilty men and women" would go free.

In debate, only one peer - Tory Baroness Rawlings - defected Mr Howard's plans as the House voted to pay some tribute to Lord Taylor, who will be succeeded today by Sir

Thomas Bingham. Sir Thomas will in turn be succeeded as Master of the Rolls by the law lord Lord Woolf.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill, a QC on the Liberal Democrat front bench, told Lord Taylor: "You will be recognised by future generations as the greatest Lord Chief Justice of this century."

He claimed Mr Howard's pro-

posals would "not deter but

would actually encourage crime".

Lord Taylor prompted Lord Williams of Mostyn, Labour's spokesman in the Lords, to attack the Home Secretary's plans more aggressively than Jack Straw, Labour's spokesman in the Commons. "Sentencing in

a civil society should be flexi-

bility," Lord Williams declared,

describing minimum mandatory sentences as "a perversion

of justice".

Lord Carr of Hadley, Conser-

vative former Home Secre-

tary, led a succession of five Tory ex-Home Office ministers who joined senior judges and the opposition in demanding a rethink.

With "very, very substantial al-

terations" to the White Paper.

Lord Belstead, who was also

leader of the Tories in the Lords,

Lord Windlesham, Lord Carlisle

and Lord Elton agreed. Several

of Mr Howard's proposals had

direct American origins, Lord

Windlesham said, and America

was hardly the best place to look

for well considered and effec-

tive criminal justice legislation.

He urged: "If we want to

avoid the adverse consequences

of similar policies introduced for

similar reasons in the United

States, I suggest to the Gov-

ernment that the voices of those

who do have first-hand exper-

ience are listened to."

Lord Mackay of Clashfern,

the Lord Chancellor, winding

up the debate, also paid tribute

to Lord Taylor, before deliver-

ing a low-key defence of the

Home Secretary's position.

He said he admired the clarity of judgments and the courage Lord Taylor had shown over the last few "sad" weeks.

Lord Mackay said it was

right that the Government

should respond to public con-

cern about crime.

NHS warned over letting drug companies run patient services

NICHOLAS TIMMINS
Public Policy Editor

The NHS would be behaving like "a turkey voting for Christmas" and for its own privatisation if it strikes deals with drug companies allowing them to run patient services, a leading doctor warned yesterday.

The alert came as Stephen

Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, is considering allowing NHS Trusts and GPs to strike "disease management" deals with pharmaceutical firms. Under the agreements, the companies would provide anything from an asthma service to, at the extreme, a complete cancer service.

Dr Harry Burns, director of

public health medicine at the Greater Glasgow Health Board, said the move raised ethical issues and would have profound implications for the NHS.

Having banned such deals in 1994, Mr Dorrell has now issued a working paper setting out a framework under which they may be permitted when the ban runs out next month.

Mr Dorrell's interest.

Dr Burns warned, however,

that the packages could be a ploy to ensure a company's products were used in preference to a competitor, or to

cheaper generic drugs. Single-disease management risked los-

ing co-ordinated care where patients had more than one illness, and drug companies in the UK while "highly competent, ethical and well-managed" have "no track record in the provision of health care".

In the US, they run cancer

centres and packages for asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and high

blood pressure, aiming to pay

for the service from savings

from unnecessary admissions.

Dr Burns stressed he had no

ideological objection, but "if the

NHS does this, it should do so

with eyes fully open to the con-

sequences. Trusts would be let-

ting private companies take

over their business. It would be

privatising of health care."

Contracting out care man-

agement, data analysis, treat-

ment guidelines and other ar-

eas in which the pharmaceutical

industry is interested would be

handing over the areas essential

to delivering cost-effective

care, he said. The likely result

would be "like turkeys voting for

Christmas".

The Department's working

paper attempts to answer the

criticisms by saying any deals

must take into account other

conditions from which the pa-

tient suffers. Doctors would

have to remain free to prescribe

any drug, and not be restricted

over where they were treated.

Data collected from patients

should remain confidential and

open to public scrutiny.

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news

Police set to adopt CS sprays after trial

JASON BENNETTO
Crime Correspondent

Police officers in England and Wales are set to be armed permanently with CS sprays after initial findings from trials concluded the device is a "success".

About 2,500 officers in 16 forces were issued with the sprays at the beginning of March as part of a six-month trial. Police chiefs hoped they would help stem the rising number of injuries against officers sustained on duty.

Opponents of the spray have argued that it has dangerous side-effects and has not been properly tested.

In the first two months, sprays were used on 131 occasions and were drawn but not fired in another 174 incidents.

A report carried out for the Association of Chief Police Officers' (Acpo) self-defence sub-committee concludes that there has been a positive response from patrol officers to the incapacitant. It is understood that the study found no long-term medical problems from using the spray. In no case has a doctor needed to recommend further medical treatment beyond the initial aftercare.

The report also says people are recovering from the effects of the CS within minutes, which the experts had predicted.

CS spray takes immediate effect and causes streaming to the eyes and nose, eyelid spasms, breathing difficulties, and in some cases blistering to the skin.

A final decision will be made at the end of the six-month trial, but police sources said chief constables were increasingly convinced the sprays should be adopted nationally.

They have pointed to a growing number of incidents in which the spray, or the threat of it, has been useful in dealing with violent offenders.

An example occurred a week after the trials began. Police were called to a disturbance in which a 23-year-old man had barricaded himself into his room in Forest Gate, east London, after threatening his family with a chisel.

When police officers tried to talk to him he lunged at them with a spear before setting fire to his room. The officers used to spray to disarm him and get him out of the burning building.

News that the police believe the sprays are a valuable addition to their armoury will cause concern to civil-liberty groups.

Early this month Liberty called for the trials to be halted after it accused the police of breaching the guidelines covering the use of the spray.

They highlighted two cases. One in March involved a man who died in police custody in east London after CS spray was squirted into his face although his arms were handcuffed behind his back.

However, the police have stressed that a post mortem found that Ibrahim Sey, 29, was suffering from heart disease. In the second case a group of nightclubs is to sue the Merseyside police force after officers allegedly released CS spray into their coach, and then shut the doors.

Liz Parratt, campaigns co-ordinator of Liberty, said: "We think it is therefore very difficult to describe the trials as a success."



Tin of the past: The Victorian mission hut, originally supplied out of a catalogue from an iron yard in London (below)

Photograph: John Voo

Tin church rededicated on a mission to preserve

CHRIS MOWBRAY

Even in its heyday, the little Victorian mission hut made of corrugated iron sheets nailed on to a cheap wooden frame was hardly an architectural gem.

But the church, which cost £70 to build in 1891 and which served the scattered rural community of Brinsthorpe Common, Herefordshire, for nearly a century, has now taken its place among some of Britain's most precious buildings.

The 12-metre long prefab, supplied out of a catalogue by J.C.Humphreys Iron Yards and Works of Ludgate Station, London, has been rebuilt at the Avoncroft Museum of Historic

Buildings in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, nearly 40 miles from its original site, and was re-dedicated this week.

The Right Rev John Oliver, the Bishop of Hereford, in whose diocese the church used to stand, officially handed over the building to the Right Rev Philip Goodrich, the Bishop of Worcester.

A 100-strong congregation was made up of former parishioners, who had saved the church by devotedly caring for it since it closed eight years ago, local church-goers, contractors who carried out the rebuilding work and museum officials including its president, the author Lucinda Lambton.

The Bishop of Hereford said: "It is one of the humbler structures in this museum and it may not be made of stone, but what does that matter? It is a piece of history preserved."

Dr Simon Penn, the museum's curator, said: "The whole thing was a total time warp with its foot, lectern, altar and all its other fittings intact, and was still very much a living, breathing, church. It represents an historic moment in architectural design - the introduction of corrugated iron as a new, durable building material. It is a perfect example of buildings which were once numerous all over the world but which are now becoming very rare."



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Council tenants stuck on benefits

NICHOLAS TIMMINS
Public Policy Editor

Council tenants are being pushed to the margins of society, left behind by the right-to-buy and trapped on benefits, a study by the Institute of Fiscal Studies revealed yesterday.

But, short of benefit cuts, which would reduce the incomes of the poorest in society, measures to improve their incentives to work will be costly, the report says.

Twenty years ago, council and housing association tenants were in the mainstream of society. Now they are "at the margins", nearly half of them from the poorest fifth of the population.

More than half have no income from employment. While average incomes have risen by 30 per cent, that of social housing tenants has fallen by a fifth since 1973. And because no new council housing is being built, only the most needy have been able to move in.

But while income has gone down, the rents have gone up, doubling in real terms since 1979 as the Government has ended subsidies to council housing and poured money into housing benefit, to help individuals pay the higher rents.

But, "the combination of low wages, higher rents and the benefit system has made the returns to working very low for many tenants," Paul Johnson, one of the report's authors, said.

To improve work incentives, rents could be cut, or in-work benefits made more generous. But both approaches are costly. Cutting rent levels by 25 per cent, taking them back to 1988 levels, would cost £1bn a year.

Mr Johnson said: "If you want people in full-time work and able to get off means-tested benefits, the approach is to spend a lot on reducing rents."

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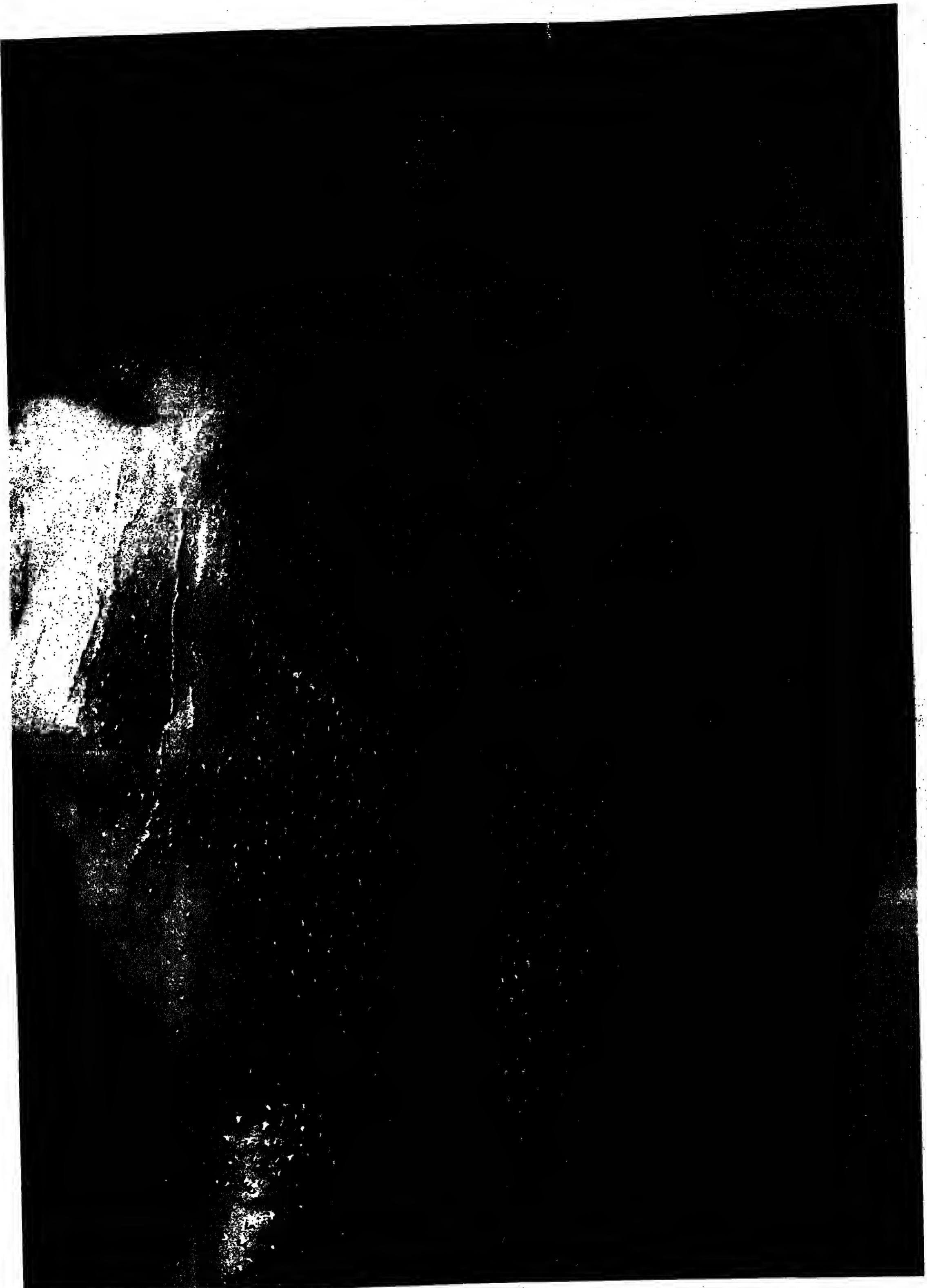
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Chechen conflict: Kremlin welcomes offer by Dudayev's successor to come to Moscow

Yeltsin to talk peace with rebel leader

HELEN WOMACK
Moscow

Chechnya's new leader, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, will travel to Moscow soon for peace talks, saving President Boris Yeltsin from making a trip to Grozny, which his aides said was too dangerous.

The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), which mediated peace talks between Russia and the Chechens last summer, announced that the latest attempt to end the 17-month conflict would take place before next month's presidential elections.

"A meeting will take place in the very near future," said Tim Guldimann, the OSCE's chief representative in Grozny. "The OSCE will accompany Yandarbiyev to Moscow and will take part in the talks."

A Kremlin spokesman confirmed the OSCE's statement. "President Boris Yeltsin guarantees the security of Yandarbiyev himself and members of his delegation," he said. Sergei Stepashin, the secretary of a state commission which Mr Yeltsin set up in March to seek a settlement in Chechnya, hailed the agreement to talk as a "great breakthrough" and said it was not connected with the President's campaign for re-election.

But the talks can hardly be seen outside the context of the elections, as Russians have made clear that they view Chechnya as the number one issue. Mr Yeltsin regrets having intervened militarily in Chechnya in December 1994. He knows his career hangs on finding peace and he has said he was prepared to go to Grozny to seek a solution.

But his security advisers said they knew of assassination plots against him. Chechen militants were said to be renting flats along the road from Grozny airport, for use by snipers. His safety could not be guaranteed. Mr Yandarbiyev advised likewise. He would not order any attacks on Mr Yeltsin, he said, but he could not be sure a lone gunman would not seek revenge for all the killing and destruction in Chechnya.

The guerrilla Shamil Basayev, who led a raid on a hospital in southern Russia last summer, said that if Mr Yeltsin entered Chechnya, he would not leave it.

Mr Yandarbiyev, who succeeded the separatist leader, General Dzhokhar Dudayev, after he was killed in a rocket attack in April, is swallowing a considerable amount of Chechen pride to come to Moscow. Earlier, he had said he would only take part in peace talks if the Yeltsin administration proved it had not ordered the killing of Dudayev, thought to have been the work of army hardliners enraged by a Chechen attack on a Russian convoy.

On the ground yesterday, the Russian army claimed it had flushed Chechen rebels out of a former Soviet nuclear-missile base where they had resisted federal forces for over a year. General Gennady Troshin said his 58th army was just mopping up, after ejecting the rebels from four silos at the base near the western village of Bamut.

The latest battle produced a death toll of at least 40 among Russian servicemen - bad news on which Mr Yeltsin's Communist opponents immediately sought to capitalise.



Far from home: A Russian soldier at the grave of a fallen comrade-in-arm near Bamut, where federal forces claim to have driven Chechen rebels from some strategic hills

Photograph: AFP

Budget cuts spark strikes on both sides of the Rhine

IAN PHILLIPS
Paris and
BRUSSELS KARACS
Bonn

Both France and Germany seem to be heading for a fresh wave of labour unrest, sparked by threatened government budget cuts to prepare for European monetary union.

An estimated 12,000 people marched through Paris yesterday to campaign for a reduction in working hours. There were also demonstrations in other French towns, as well as a strike at the national railway (SNCF). The Eiffel Tower was shut for the fourth consecutive day.

Yesterday's strike action was called by the CFDT union because of delays in signing agreements between the unions and employers' organisations over the reduction in working hours. According to an earlier agreement signed by unions and the Centre National du Patronat Français (CNPFF), accord should be met in more than 100 sectors by 30 June.

The CNPFF believes that a large, general and obligatory reduction in working hours will have catastrophic effects on productivity. But the government seems to be on the side of the unions. President Jacques Chirac recently told the CNPFF president, Jean Ganclois, that "you can do much better on the issue of working hours", and the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, is threatening to change legislation if the discussions between unions and the employers organisations do not advance.

Yesterday's action served as a test for union leaders, who wished to check the mood of members. "We're getting up speed for the other strikes and days of action," said the CGT union leader, Louis Viallan.

The next few weeks will see a surge of social unrest in France. Yesterday's action was sparked by Mr Juppé's comments last week that there was "excess fat" in the public sector.

A day of action has been called later this month for the down yesterday, with the unions condemning the government's offer of a half per cent pay rise as "provocative".

But commuters are likely to be spared more disruption in the foreseeable future, as the two sides will take the dispute to arbitration. During that period, approximately three weeks, no industrial action is allowed under the country's labour laws.

If arbitration fails, the union's 1.7 million members could paralyse transport, postal services, hospitals and government offices. However, the government has little scope for concessions, as the projected budget deficit for next year is already larger than allowed under the Maastricht criteria for European monetary union.

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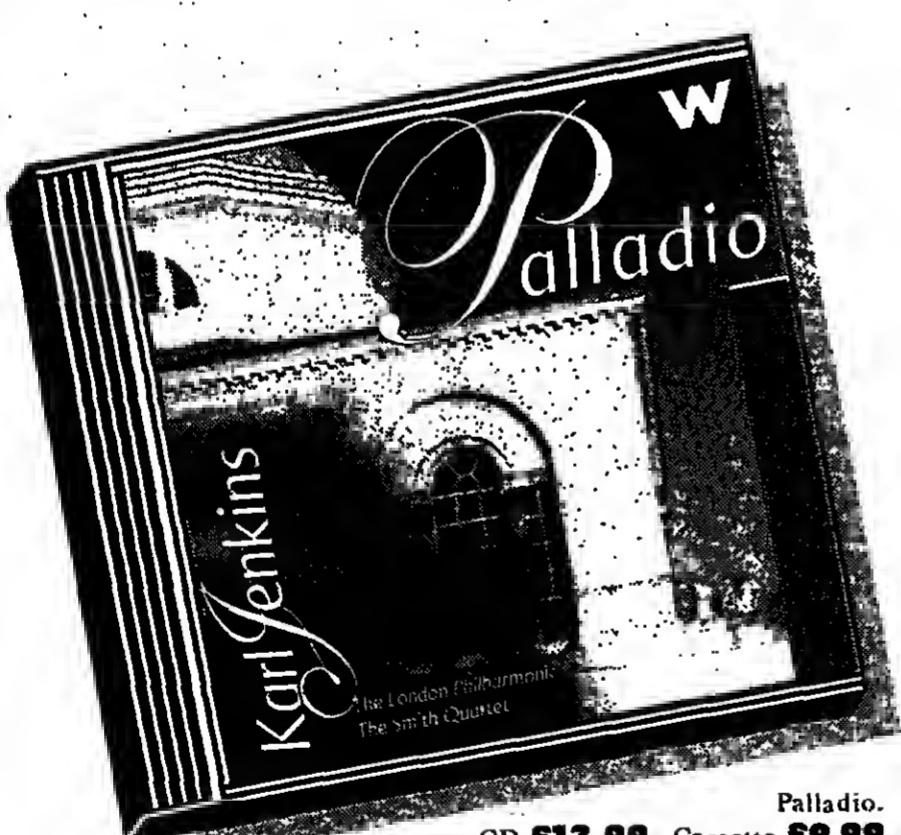
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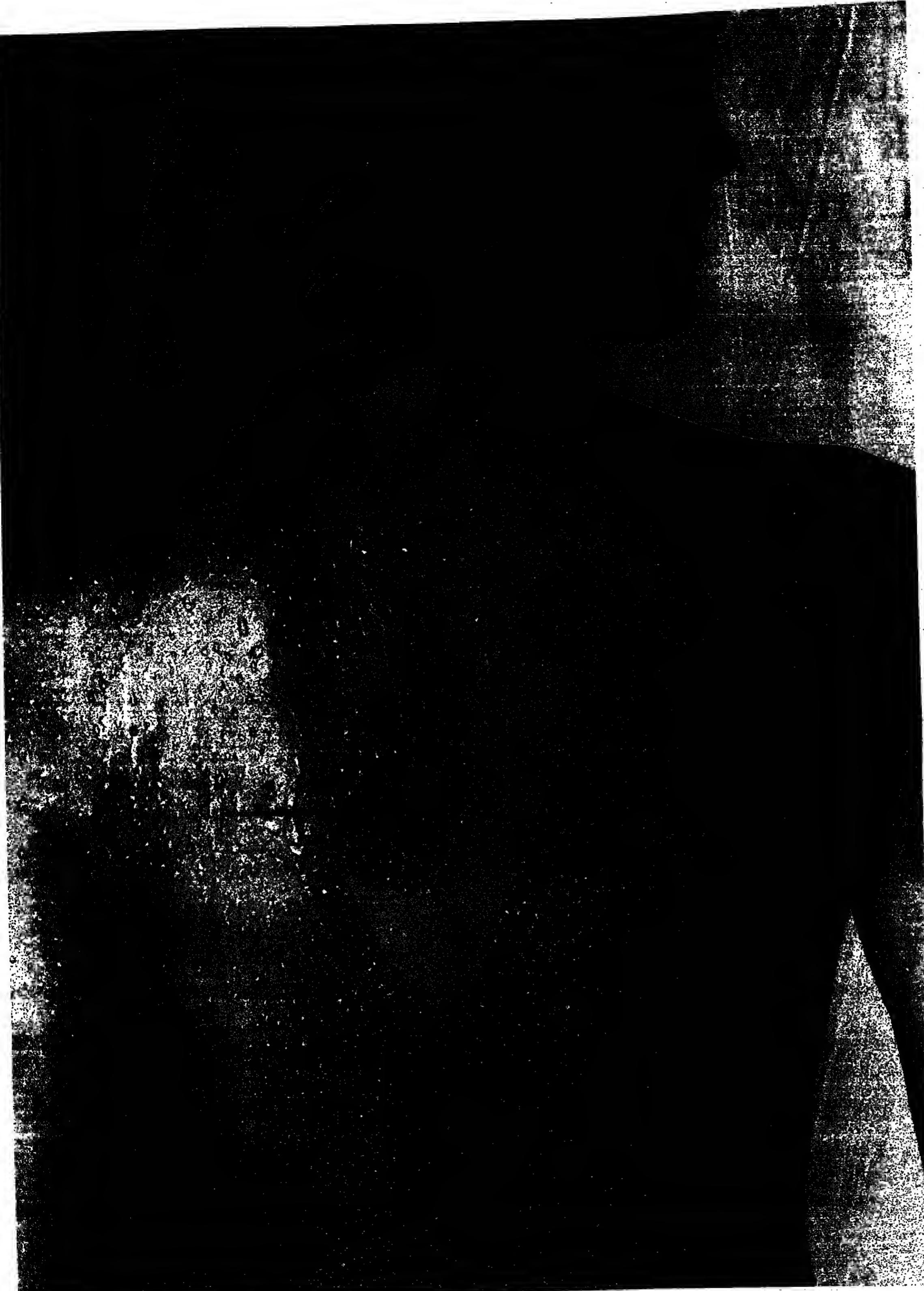
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A haven of tolerance on the Golden Horn

Istanbul — An iron gate bars access to the fifth floor of an anonymous building in the fashionable district of Taksim, behind which, every Saturday afternoon, a brightly dressed group of amateurs gathers to put out the weekly organ of Turkey's proud and successful Jewish community.

Security at *Shalom* newspaper is respected only a little more than the Sabbath day, however. A cheery voice called down the stairwell: "Who is it?" The gate swung open and I was ushered into a world about which most of Turks are only dimly aware.

"We are just 25,000 people in a country of 65 million. Most Turkish Muslims have never even met a Jew," said *Shalom*'s editor, Silvio Ovadya, after greeting me in a lobby-cum-bookstore filled with thick volumes on more than 500 years of Turkish Jewish history.

The community's story is an unusual tale of survival and the creation of a unique sense of identity and tolerance. Outrages committed by Israel have led to upsurges of Islamic fervour and ignorant slurs against Jews in Turkey's Islamist press. But in general, the Turks feel little common cause with Arabs. Anti-Semitism has rarely found any official echo.

Indeed, Turkey's Jewish community sees itself as an important link in a developing special relationship between Turkey and Israel, not to mention an alliance in Washington between the powerful Jewish lobby and its puny Turkish equivalent.

"It's fair to say that no Jew has ever been persecuted by the state here just because they were Jews," said Suzan Nana Tarabulus, taking time off from a mainstream Turkish



newspaper as the only professional journalist in *Shalom*'s editorial team.

Traditionally the Jews of Turkey believe they have not only been better off than Jews in other Muslim countries, but better off than in many European Christian countries as well.

The first Jews came to Istanbul in Byzantine times. When the Ottoman Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror captured the depleted city in 1453, he asked them to stay: "Ascend the site of the imperial throne, dwell in the best of the land, each beneath his vine and fig tree, with silver and with gold, with wealth and with cattle," one of his edicts declared.

Pleased by the Jews' co-operation to prosperity, the Ottomans seized the opportunity offered by the persecution of the Catholic inquisition in Spain and in 1492, they welcomed any Sephardic Jews who wished to come.

Even today, the lilting tones of Judeo-Spanish, sometimes called Ladino, can be heard in Taksim restaurants. The custom is dying, however. Perhaps only a third of the community now speaks the language. *Shalom* just gives it one page, the recipe column, and the motto: "A lo nuestro tueno, a lo deroce deroce." (Right for the right, crookedness for the crooked). The rest is in Turkish.

"Judeo-Spanish is not a mother-tongue anymore, it's a grandmother-tongue. Very few

people know any Hebrew. Turkish is the language we speak at home," said Mr Tarabulus.

The Ottoman Empire declined, and with it, the Jewish community. By the mid-19th century, many lived in poor districts by the banks of the Golden Horn. Education and an opening to the West began to change all that. Unlike the Greeks and Armenians, who had territorial claims against the Ottoman Empire, the Jewish community survived the transition into a Turkish republic relatively well.

The only hiccup came during the Second World War. On one hand, Turkey gave asylum to German Jews, encouraging academics to settle, and protecting Jews with Turkish passports. On the other hand, an unjust wartime capital levy, the wealth tax, aimed to break the domination of business by non-Muslim minorities. Many Jews were sent into internal exile.

The result was that many chose to go to the new state of Israel after the war, where many of them preserve a distinctly Turkish Jewish identity.

Turkish politicians visiting the country sometimes seem to get a warmer welcome in their main district of Beit Yam than

they do when touring Turkey.

Few Jews choose Israel over Turkey today, despite an undercurrent of problems that goes further than the occasional vandalism of Jewish cemeteries or anti-Semitic diatribes in the Islamic press.

Two Arabs from Abu Nidal's

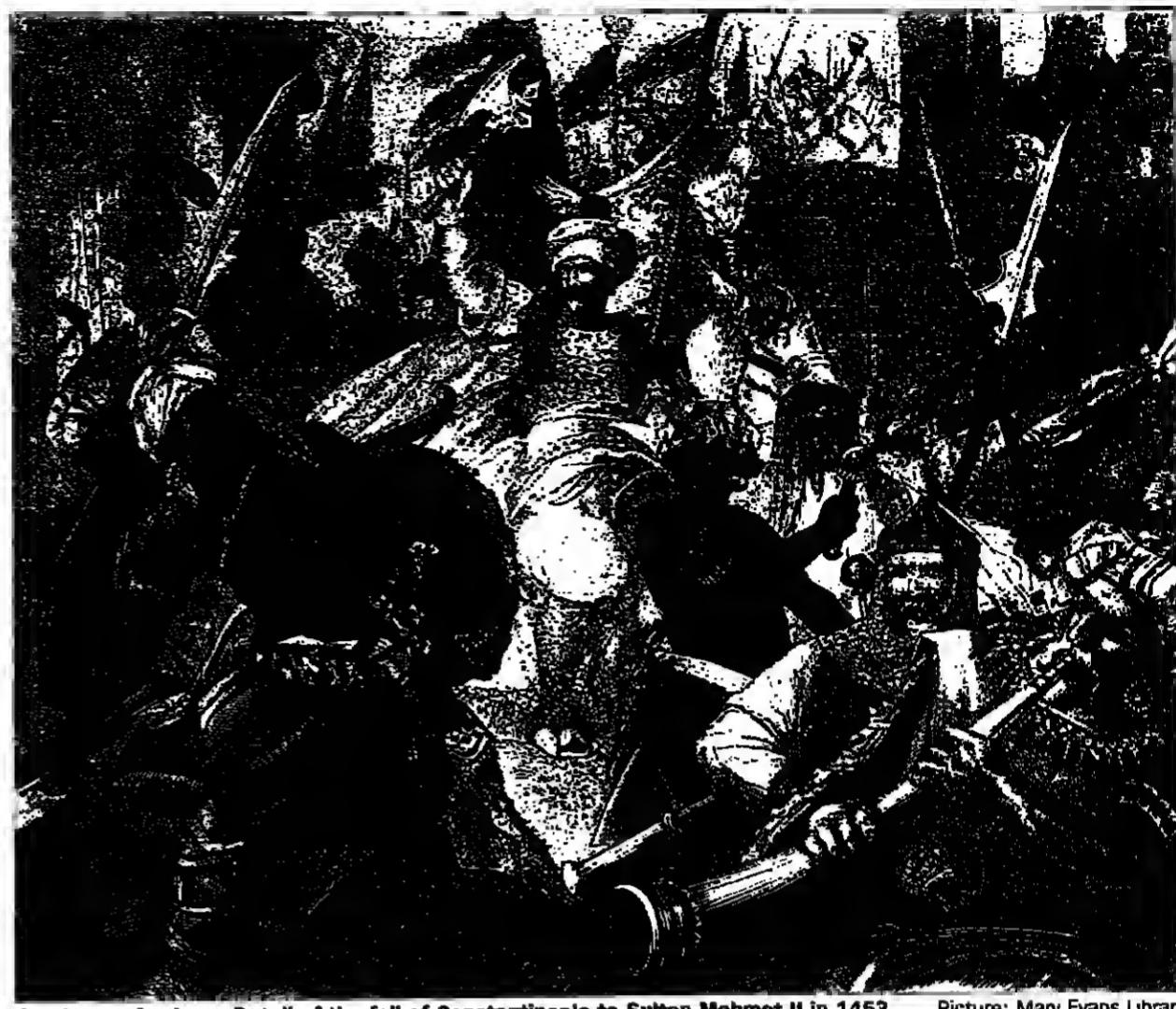
terrorist group shot and killed

22 Jews in Istanbul's Neve Shalom synagogue in 1986.

In 1992, a hand-grenade killed another at the same place. Assassination attempts were made since then against two Jews, the head of the 100-strong community in Ankara, and the best known Jewish industrialist, Jak Kamhi.

But Jak Kamhi's son Jefi in December became the first non-Muslim to be elected to the Turkish parliament in four decades. Other Jews, being well-educated, still feel they are better off playing a role in the dynamic development of the Turkish economy.

"To be in a minority is a personal conflict. But everybody resolves their conflict in some way," said Mr Tarabulus. "Some people call themselves Vedat instead of Vitaly and melt into the population. Others are given names that stand out, like Israel, and happily live with it."



Good news for Jews: Detail of the fall of Constantinople to Sultan Mehmet II in 1453 Picture: Mary Evans Library

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

Boutros Boutros-Ghali indicated he may be discouraged from seeking a second five-year term as UN Secretary-General after this year, because of his budget difficulties. "I have not taken a decision to run again or not," he told Egypt's *Al-Ahram Weekly*. "I am honest, since the UN is in a serious financial crisis. Member states owe \$2.3bn (£1.5bn). Do you want me to work as an under-secretary at the end of my life and look in the UN job? ... It's lousy work. At one time they wanted to send me packing."

This week the US said it had not

port the former Paymaster General for a second term. He

UN shortcomings in Bosnia and Somalia, those mentioned as possible alternatives include the Irish President, Mary Robinson, and Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway. *David Osborne - New York*

The Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, cited accusations of meddling in Israel's ongoing peace negotiations as a warning not to close off the option of a Palestinian state. In a speech on the Middle East prepared for delivery last night, he praised the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, and urged Israel to let Palestinians move freely in and out of the occupied territories and east Jerusalem. Mr Rifkind said it would be short-sighted for Israel in the long-term to insist on a permanent settlement with the Palestinians, as part of a peace agreement. "In fact, the settlement will not be based on strict Palestinian rights, not least the right of self-determination. To close off the option of a state would be a mistake of the first magnitude," he told the Conference on Middle Eastern Economic Cooperation and Technical Aid for the Palestinians. *London*

Seven French Trappist monks abducted in Algeria had been killed, according to a Moroccan radio station which said it had received a message in the name of the kidnappers. It was not possible to substantiate the message, signed in the name of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA). Radio Mediterraneo International said that GIA said it "executed" the monks on Wednesday after a 10-day siege. Jacques Chirac of France ruled out dialogue with the Algerian rebels. The monks were kidnapped from their monastery south of Algiers in March. *Roger - Rabat*

Sir David Hartley, recently retired British representative at the UN, was named as a Special Representative for Cyprus. Britain is a guiding power for Cyprus. Sir David, 60, will participate in efforts to negotiate a long-term settlement between the Greek and Turkish communities on resolving the island's division between the Greek and Turkish communities. The issue will come to the forefront when talks begin, probably next year, on the proposed entry of Cyprus to the European Union. Before Hartley's UN post in 1990, Sir David was for five years Britain's ambassador at the EU. *David Osborne - New York*

The military regime has wrecked Aung San Suu Kyi's plans to hold Burma's most important pro-democracy meeting in years, keeping 191 of the delegates in custody but refraining — for now — from arresting her. Suu Kyi, 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner, has been released but only after she was held under house arrest for nearly six years. She was held under house arrest "because she was really nervous," said Suu Kyi, who was released last July. Opposition leaders vowed that the conference would go forward on Sunday as planned. *AP - Bangkok*

A toddler found dead in a well in the southern Spanish town of Moguer could have been killed by one of his young playmates, police said, working on the theory after a minor led them to the scene where three-year-old Ismael Gomez died. The alleged criminal smothered the small community, which initially thought he had accidentally killed Gomez, was found in a dry well on Wednesday night after disappearing on Tuesday afternoon to go to buy sweets from a stall near his home. *Anna - Madrid*

It's the first hint that the FBI may be losing patience with the Montana Freemen, agents prepared yesterday to boot off power to the ranch where leaders of the anti-government group have kept them at bay for two months. "We have been over backwards to achieve a peaceful solution here and it continued to be our desire that will be the result," said Jamie Gorlick, a Justice Department official. "We are not setting deadlines for ourselves." About twenty people are thought to be inside the ranch. About seven are wanted on charges of fraud and assault with intent to kill. *Tim Cornwell - Los Angeles*

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Under fire: Kashmiris in Baramulla scatter as Indian security forces shoot over their heads during an anti-election protest yesterday. Photograph: AFP

Kashmiris vote at the point of India's guns

TIM McGIRK
Baramulla

In the old Kashmir town of Baramulla, the Indian army obliged people with a 5am wake-up call so they would not forget to vote in yesterday's elections. It was not a courtesy call but a threat.

Armed soldiers filed through the rainy alleys of Baramulla, forcing their way into the cedar-beamed houses and dragging people from their beds. "They took down my name and said that if I hadn't cast my vote by 5pm, they would beat me so hard that my face would be unrecognisable," said one bearded man afraid to give his name.

But when polls opened at

8am, the expected queues of eager Kashmiri voters had failed to appear. So the soldiers went back. This time they used their rifle butts and bamboo sticks to herd the people through the mud like frightened animals.

One grizzled man held out his thumb, marked with an indelible stain by the polling officer, which showed he had voted. He was relieved but bitter.

"The army said that if I didn't come back with this ink on my thumb, I'd be shot dead. But none of us wanted these elections. We want freedom from India," said the old man. The crowd pressing in on us shouted "Azadi! Azadi!" (Freedom).

But the Kashmiris were forever gazing down Baramulla's empty lanes to see if an army patrol was rounding the corner.

Given a choice, most Kashmiris now would prefer a third option: Azadi. These parliamentary elections, many Kashmiris believe, will be used by New Delhi as an excuse to prove that Kashmiris have abandoned support for the Muslim separatists and are once again happy to be part of India. Polling officers boasted that voter turn-out was a high 43 per cent. Many voters claimed that, in anger, they spoilt their ballot by stamping all the party symbols: the hand, the boat, the lotus, the bicycle, and the bow and arrow.

In Baramulla, people resisted as long as they could. A thousand of them marched across the bridge spanning the Jhelum river. They were fired on with tear gas by paramilitary police and beaten with clubs. Still they refused to vote. It was only after an army officer, Major Sanjiv Kapoor, rounded up more than 50 children and kept them under arrest until mid-afternoon that their parents, defeated, went to the polls.

GOOD NEWS
I GOT THE JOB

The army's coercion in Baramulla, was not a single, ugly incident. Throughout Kashmir valley, systematic use of intimidation and vote-rigging was carried out by Indian authorities. When an Indian polling officer, Jaiji Khan, told a news conference that yesterday's elections in Kashmir were "free of irregularities", he was met with loud jeers.

Everywhere, from Baramulla to Aranzag in southern Kashmir (the capital Srinagar votes on 30 May), the story was the same: Indian soldiers and police forced the Kashmiris to vote. It was a fraud of carelessness, transparency and brutality, one that has convinced many Kashmiris that Indian democracy, at least in this troubled Himalayan state, is only a sham. Electoral rolls were doctored; army officers admitted they were under orders to ensure a high turnout and at several polling stations

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whether the Chinese representatives could actually have delivered them.

Whatever the extent of the scheme however, its discovery could not have come at a worse time, as ties between the US and China are under almost unprecedented strain on a host of different fronts - from human rights and trade with Taiwan to the alleged supply by Peking of nuclear weapons equipment to Pakistan and other countries.

Earlier this month Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, decided not to impose punitive sanctions on China for exporting ring magnets - which can be used to build nuclear weapons - to Pakistan on the grounds that senior Chinese officials did not know about the sale.

But whether that ignorance applies to this case is not clear. Although Norinco is one of China's biggest arms manufacturers, and highly aggressive in the international market, corruption is widespread as well-placed Chinese industry officials divert production to sell for their own personal gain.

At the very least, however, the incident can only set back hopes of resolving other disputes between the two countries, dealing a further blow to hopes of establishing regular Sino-American summits and possibly re-opening the annual argument here over extending China's Most Favoured Nation trading status.

Despite a growing trade row over CD and CD-Rom copyright infringement which could see Washington impose punitive tariffs on \$2bn worth of imports of Chinese textiles and electronic equipment by the middle of June, both President Clinton and Bob Dole, his likely Republican opponent in November's election, have been supporting renewal of MFN when it comes up for extension in 10 days' time.

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Patrick Cargill

As Patrick Cargill, the suave writer of pulp thrillers, who struggled to bring up two lazy, man-mad teenage daughters and fend off his ex-wife, Patrick Cargill became a household name in the situation comedy series *Father, Dear Father*. He and his faithful St Bernard dog H.G. Wells were the sole men in a household of women. Farne had been a long time coming for the aristocratic-sounding actor with the dry, deliberate speech, but he found it in his middle years after two decades of playing mostly baddies in television and comedy roles in films such as the *Carry On* series.

Born in London in 1918, into a military family, Cargill went from Haileybury School to the Royal Military College at Sandhurst to train as an officer, and served in the Indian army, but resigned his commission to return home and become an actor, learning the ropes at Bexhill Rep in 1930.

With the outbreak of war, Cargill was back in the Army but, on being demobbed, he took to the boards in repertory theatre at Buxton, Croydon and Windsor. He made his West End debut in *High Spirits*, and his subsequent stage plays included *Dear Delinquent, Say Who You Are, Two and Two Makes Six, Blithe Spirit, Sleuth* and more than 1,500 performances, over three years, in *Boeing-Boeing*.

Before *Father, Dear Father*, Cargill tended to play sinister types on television, drawing swords with Richard Greene in the Fifties series *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, acting the counter-espionage chief, Miguel Garcia, who teams up with the British agent Peter Dallas (played by William Franklin) in Argentina in the 1961 crime series *Top Secret* – a role that Cargill recreated in an episode of the police series *No Hiding Place* a year later – as well as both Thorpe and a sadistic No 2 in Patrick McGoohan's cult Sixties yarn *The Prisoner* (1967-68). He was seen as bad-bodies in *The Avengers* (1964) and *Man in a Suitcase* (1967).

But the talents Cargill had shown for comedy in films and



Cargill: winks and nods



Cargill in 1968, as the suave Patrick Cargill in *Father, Dear Father* between his daughters Anna (Natasha Pyne) and Karen (Ann Holloway)

(1965), *A Countess from Hong Kong* (Charlie Chaplin's last film, 1966), *Inspector Clouseau* (1968), *The Magic Christian* (1969), *Every Home Should Have One* (1970), *Up Pompeii!* (1971) and *Father, Dear Father* (1973), a spin-off from the television series.

Anthony Hayward

There are two kinds of farceur – the low and the high, writes Adam Benedict. Patrick Cargill aspired, sometimes brilliantly, sometimes lamentably, to both.

Every actor needs to have range, even if the range between high and low farce can be greater than many of them suppose; but the proof of Cargill's range was his triumph as Charles in Coward's *Blithe Spirit* (1970).

After watching his antics, in, say, *Boeing-Boeing* (1962), *Say Who You Are* (1965) or *Two and Two Make Six* (1973), who would have supposed that the actor had the discipline as the husband bullied by both the quick and the dead in Coward's farce to get under the solemnly comic skin of that battered French farceur?

All his career Cargill was a keen writer, who scripted an episode of the television series *Top Secret* and a stage play, *Smith by Any Other Name* (1956), as well as co-writing, with Jack Scarfe, the West End hit *Ring for Carry*, later adapted into the film *Carry On Nurse* (1959), which he also acted in.

Cargill made his film debut in the Disney live-action adventure *The Sword and the Rose* (starring Glynis Johns as Mary Tudor, 1953) and followed it with 30 pictures, including the naval spoof *Up the Creek* (1958), the Brian Rix wartime comedy *The Night We Dropped a Clanger* (1959), *Doctor Love* (1960), *Carry On Regardless* (1961), *Carry On Jack* (1963) – as Don Luis, the smooth Spanish governor threatened by the crew of the Venus – the Beatles' Help!

The truth perhaps is not so much that there are high and low farceurs as that there are high and low farces and that Cargill tended to wallow (from want of choice?) in the lower kind. Wallow is perhaps a clue to his acting, for it implies enjoyment on the farceur's part; once we sense that the farceur is having fun, our own is liable to dwindle. Farce, after all, is all about social or sexual plights, and who can find funny the plight of a father or a lover or whatever who seems to be en-

joying himself, even by so much as a wink or a nod?

Cargill's repertoire of winks and nods could be prodigious, likewise his energy. Not all farce needs to be acted like a whirlwind with the whole company digging each other in the ribs and showing how sharp are their elbows and their timing; but Cargill found himself in many shows like that; and by the force of personality would impose on them what came to be called the Patrick Cargill part.

What this was exactly no one bothered to define but it usually meant an ageing and eager public schoolboy, slightly dim, somewhat lascivious, who wants to remain as true as he can to his upbringing as a supposed gentleman while at the same time fulfilling his farcical fancies.

The character, if it could be so dignified, derived as much from Cargill's looks, manner and wide-eyed air of enquiry as from any sense of actorly authorial insight. Some cynics used to wonder whether Cargill ever acted at all? Was he not always playing himself? The answer was – yes, more or less. And because the personality was amiable and affable in a silly-ass tradition of British farce, Cargill conquered all sorts of rotten writing and direction on both stage and screen by being himself more often than any supposed character.

Behind the heavy-lidded eyes with which he gazed down that prominent nose towards the thin line of his mouth with a certain haughtiness was an actor who since his Haileybury, Sandhurst and Indian army days had never thought of anything else much but acting.

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It was the naughty-boyish temperament which people found amusing, if not charming. You had to admire the cheek. If that is where the actor allowed

his tongue to stray too visibly and too often (depending on the director) it is perhaps because actors are regularly accused of indulging themselves in farce when it is as often as not the author who has been indulging himself.

In "high" farce (like *Blithe Spirit*), Cargill was supremely long-faced and serious; and in the lower type he was perhaps too often tempted to add his own nods and beaks and amused glances as in for example *Some of My Best Friends are Husbands* (1976), as an old roué prevented from bedding his bride by visitors from his past.

Working for a firm director, though, in *Key for Two* (1982) and a firm writer (John Chapman), Cargill was in his disciplined element as a husband who supposed that he alone was Moira Listie's keeper, and it was the same actor who drew most of the laughter in William Douglas Home's *After the Ball* (Old Vic 1985) as he leaped up port and hibes – making mischief again, you see: No one knew better than Cargill how to imply it, relish it or share his joy with us in it.

Although he seldom worked as a director in the theatre he had a singular success with the Cooney-Chapman hit *Not Now Darling* (1968) and co-wrote the short-lived London stage comedy *Ring For Caty* (1956) which begat the film *Carry on Nurse*. More of that mischief was already in hand 40 years ago.

Patrick Cargill, actor and writer: born London 3 June 1918; died 23 May 1996.

Eleanor Campbell-Orde

Eleanor Campbell-Orde possessed a striking beauty and a love of art which enveloped her in a wide circle of socialites, writers, painters, actors and dancers.

During her years at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, Eleanor Watts enjoyed friendships with Osbert Lancaster, John Betjeman, Stephen Spender, Christopher Hawke and Evelyn Waugh, whose wife clapped with her boyfriend. To avoid an excess of male pursuit she left Oxford early, forsaking history and taking up art at the Central School of Art and Design. During this time she became engaged to the actor Valentine Dyall. A long engagement ended when she spent a year in Florence.

During the 1930s she became a pupil of the Georgian painter Prince Scherbachidze at St Martin's, Westminster. He was at the Bank of England but did not know of North Uist, which Simon had acquired, and by the shores of Loch Fyne in Argyllshire where the Campbell-Ordes had lived for centuries. During the Second World War, while her husband served with the Lovat Scouts, a mounted yeomanry regiment, Eleanor campaigned for the return of ponies stolen from North Uist.

After the war she became involved with the Arts Educational Schools (originally the Colne-Ripman) at Tooting and for many years served on their board of governors, while her husband became a trustee of the Royal Caledonian Schools at Bushey, Hertfordshire. To raise funds she organised the annual Caledonian Ball at Grosvenor House as well as a huge sale at

the London Scottish Drill Hall in East London – also annual.

In 1947 the Campbell-Ordes established a market garden at Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire and continued their patronage of worthy projects. Eleanor assisted Yehudi Menuhin in launching his school of violin-playing, and became Chairman of the Harlequin Ballet Trust, for whom she designed and painted some attractive décors. The family later moved to the Little Boltons in London, where they entertained in style.

Eleanor Campbell-Orde was a Christian Scientist like her mother and grandmother. She led a rigorous life and was never ill. Though difficult by nature and sometimes vague, she possessed a remarkable ability to be in command of situations. Integrity, dignity and charm were her shining virtues. She travelled the world and was interested in many cultures. In old age she painted and exhibited her watercolours in local exhibitions in Dedham, Essex, where she had built herself a house adjoining her daughter's residence.

Towards the end she became immobilised but her unquenchable spirit never flagged and she continued to keep in touch with the organisations that had been so much a part of her life.

John Gregory
Eleanor Hyde Watts, painter and charity worker: born Cheadle Hulme, near Manchester 23 August 1908; married 1938 Sir Simon Campbell-Orde Bt (died 1969; two sons, one daughter); died Dedham, Essex 18 May 1996.

BIRTHS
BRUMM: On 23 May, in Shona (nee Vickery) and Peter, a daughter, Lauri Shona Burfitt, sister to Bern-janine.

DEATHS

BARNARD: Eileen, of Blackheath, London, aged 80, much-loved mother of Hilary and, and adored grandmother of Kali and Sam, died peacefully at Clevedon, Somerset, on 18 May. Services Friday 31 May at 11am at Horner Oak Crematorium, Brenchley Gardens, Forest Hill, London SE23. No flowers. Donations please. Donation if desired to British Heart Foundation.

ORUS STEVENS: Emily Rose on 18 May in a car accident aged 19. Much-

Births, Marriages & Deaths

Youngest daughter of Judith and Jean, sister of Xanthe and Gabriella, and granddaughter of Peggy. Private funeral. Thanksgiving service at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, Chelsea on 5 June at 2pm. All are welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS should be sent to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephone 0171-933 2011 or fax to 0171-933 2010, and are charged at £5.50 a line (VAT extra).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

LONDON: Visits Lady Haig's Poppy Factory, the Royal British Legion, Edinburgh, and visits St Ninian's Church, Dumfries. Changing of the Guard. The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion Irish Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11am; band provided by the Coldstream Guards.

Birthdays

Sir James Anderson, former Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, 64; Mr Graham Arnold, artist, 64; Mr Stanley Barker, comedian, 68; Sir Timothy Bevan, former chairman, Barclays Bank, 69; Professor Sir Paul Bramley, oral surgeon, 73; Mr Keith Budde, Headmaster, Loreto School, 39; Lord Campbell of Alloway QC, 74; Mr Eric Cantona, footballer, 30; Mr Leszek Czaja, Ambassador to Colombia, 58; Sir Richard Curtis, High Court judge, 63; Sir Roden Cutler VC, diplomat, 81; Mr Bob Dylan, singer, 55; Mr Peter Griffiths MP, 68; Mrs Kathleen Hale, children's author and illustrator, 98; Dame Joan Hargreaves, soprano, 84; Mr Robert Hastie, Lord-Lieutenant for West Glamorgan, 63; Sir Terence Heiler, former senior civil servant, 64; Sir Derek Hodges, former High Court judge, 76; Baroness Hollis of Heigham, Senator Fellow, Modern History, University of East Anglia, 55; Mr Clifford Irving, former Chairman, Isle of Man Government, 82; Mr Christopher Jackson, former MER chairman, CIA Consultant, 61; Mr D.V. Jennings, 1964; Ms Elisabeth Zetterström, singing actress and film-maker, 1925; Dennis David L, King of Scots, 113; Nicolas Copernicus, astronomer, 1473; Robert Cecil, first

Earl of Salisbury, statesman, 1612; William Hamilton (of Gilbert's Field), poet, 1751; George Brydges, First Baron Rodney, admiral, 1792; William Croft, dramatist and gambler, 1744; Jane Porter, novelist, 1805; William Lloyd Garrison, abolitionist, 1805; Samuel Palmer, landscape painter, 1805; Sir John Foster Dulles, statesman, 1955; Bernard Rogers, composer, 1968; Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, musician, 1899; Jack Warner (Waters), actor and variety artist, 1931; Hermann Ferdinand Gingold, actor, 1887; Hamish Hamilton, publisher, 1938; Lord Wilson of Rievaulx (John Harold Wilson), statesman, 1938; Lord Christopher Staunton, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 63; Sir Michael Trevor, writer, 68; Mr Arnold Wesker, playwright, 64.

Anniversaries
Birth: Gabriel Fahrenheit, inventor of the mercury thermometer, 1686; Jean-Paul Marat, politician and physician, 1743; William Whewell, philosopher and writer, 1794; Victoria Queen and Empress, 1819; Robert Bonaparte Cunningham Graham, writer and politician, 1852; Sir Ernest Albert Waterlow, water-colour painter, 1850; Admiral Prince Louis Mountbatten, 1880; Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, playwright, 1855; Jan Christian Smuts, soldier and statesman, 1870; Edmund Lees, tennis player, 1879; George Formby (William Hoy Boot), singer and comedian, 1904; Mai Elisabeth Zetterström, singing actress and film-maker, 1925; Dennis David L, King of Scots, 113; Nicolas Copernicus, astronomer, 1473; Robert Cecil, first

Earl of Salisbury, statesman, 1612; William Hamilton (of Gilbert's Field), poet, 1751; George Brydges, First Baron Rodney, admiral, 1792; William Croft, dramatist and gambler, 1744; Jane Porter, novelist, 1805; William Lloyd Garrison, abolitionist, 1805; Samuel Palmer, landscape painter, 1805; Sir John Foster Dulles, statesman, 1955; Bernard Rogers, composer, 1968; Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, musician, 1899; Jack Warner (Waters), actor and variety artist, 1931; Hermann Ferdinand Gingold, actor, 1887; Hamish Hamilton, publisher, 1938; Lord Wilson of Rievaulx (John Harold Wilson), statesman, 1938; Lord Christopher Staunton, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 63; Sir Michael Trevor, writer, 68; Mr Arnold Wesker, playwright, 64.

Lectures
National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Creative Copies" (iv); Rembrandt and Tiepolo, "The Deposition", 1pm.
Tate Gallery: Clement Page, "Bruce Nauman and the Morphology of the Art Object", 1pm.
Victoria and Albert Museum: Sarah Seachrist, "The Arts of the World: Islam: the Islamic world", 2.30pm.
Leicester University: John Schofield, "Reading the Prints that History can't Read: rescue archaeology and urban history", 12.45pm.

Concerts
Ministry of Defence
Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, German Armed Forces.

Dinners
Lord High Commissioner

The Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Princess Royal, gave a dinner yesterday at Holyroodhouse. Among those present were: Mr Donald Cameron and Lady Cecilia Cameron; Ms Alison Davies and Mr Gordon Davies; Mr and Mrs Brian Hammett; Mr Geraldine Pascott; Professor Chris Rojeck; Dr and Mrs Andrew Weir; Dr and Mrs Bryan Williams; Mr and Mrs Colin Williams.

Synagogue services
Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 8.45pm.

United Synagogues 0171-387 4380; Federation of Synagogues 0101-302 2363; Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues 0171-588 1663; Reform Synagogues of Great Britain 0101-349 4751; Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation 0171-569 2973; New London Synagogue (Finsbury) 0171-325 1262.

Bobby Tulloch

Bobby Tulloch, the Shetland naturalist, became well known world-wide thanks to the wildlife television films made about him and the books he wrote or illustrated.

Born in 1929, at a croft in North Aywick on the island of Yell, he grew up by the sea; it is therefore hardly surprising that on one occasion his mother found not a teddy bear in the young Bobby's bed but a dead puffin. His old ex-whaler grandfather once had to explain to him that the cat he was worried about swimming in the sea was in fact his first otter. Years later, in the early 1980s, Bobby Tulloch helped the BBC cameraman Hugh Miles in the making of the wonderful documentary *The Track of the Wild Otter*, which was mostly filmed around Yell.

Yell is the second biggest of 100 or so islands that make up the Shetland archipelago – it is low-lying, windswept, made of peat and covered in heather. For Bobby Tulloch, with his boat, it was a good central island from which to travel all round Shetland

the leader page

Make way for the lollipop lady with the logo

Fact, children: your prosperity depends on the cumulative performance of private companies, importing, exporting, buying and selling, advertising and sponsoring resource packs for schools. Children need to learn that lesson, their livelihoods will depend on it. Sponsorship in education, as in health, is not just inevitable, it is welcome – especially if it breeds better understanding of the mainsprings of material advance.

Schools ought to be preparing children for life with Cadbury's, Halifax and Tesco. There is no other way. We live in, and they are growing up into, a corporate culture. Schools, parents, common sense ought to arm them to discriminate, to read subtexts. Most children are indeed robust consumers. They surf in a sea of signs and images with an aplomb that adults can only envy. They define "cool". Hard sells in school and company logos all over the playground just won't work. What was striking in some of the examples in yesterday's report from the National Consumer Council was the crudity of the messages in companies' material for schools compared with, say, their television advertising. Such disparities are not lost on most children.

They may be on teachers' and consumer groups. Too many of those engrossed with the formation of tomorrow's consumers and employees find the facts of economic life unpalatable. Call it capitalism or private enterprise,

the system, the one and only system, depends upon company performance. So: to cross the road under the supervision of a lollipop man or woman whose mac bears a logo; to travel to the school playing fields in a minivan given by a company gift; to consult a doctor whose pen set bears the name of a leading pharmaceutical company: there is nothing counter-cultural about any of that. Sponsorship is fine, provided certain principles of public service are not undermined and children or vulnerable patients are not treated as a captive audience to be seduced or lied to.

The problem with the Tory approach to bringing the private and public sectors together, through the Private Finance Initiative, for example, has been twofold. One, it has been dogmatic; and two, it has rested on a year-long campaign to belittle the ethic of public service. What government ministers have failed to realise is that the stronger the values and conventions that underpin the state, the more secure and welcome is likely to be the marriage of public purpose and private money.

Education and health care are not backwaters, distant from the mainstream of life. Education is preparation; health care is restoration. Neither the classroom nor the surgery is isolated from the world. Too many graduates of the schools and the universities stumble blinking into daylight ill-equipped to find or make work for

themselves. Which is not to advocate narrow vocationalism – in the modern economy it would be dysfunctional. It is, however, to lay a serious charge at the door of teachers and professors.

They could start to change for the better by being a lot less starchy about the business of sponsorship. What teacher worth his or her salt could not turn – one of the NCC's examples – a crude advert by a chocolate-maker into an exciting lesson about business, mass communications or dental hygiene? Problems clearly arise if all the teacher has to go on is sponsored material. The limiting case is where a pristine public purpose

(say, teaching the national curriculum) can only be carried out thanks to unpredictable private donations. The key test for sponsorship, as for the Government's Private Finance Initiative, is whether this is additional money.

There is no point pretending that there is some golden rule identifying, say, a minimum unit cost per pupil, or per patient: that is not how public finance works in a parliamentary democracy working with annual budgets. There exists, none the less, a notional minimum necessary to pay for decent levels of provision. Private sponsorship must bolt on to this, not substitute for

it. Thus it is always going to be most acceptable on the periphery. A school that cannot pay for science textbooks out of its budget is in trouble; a school that gets industry to sponsor the crossing patrol outside (or organises a rota of parents) has broken no principle.

Spotting the point at which the principle of adequacy is breached won't always be easy. The work of general practitioners is already cross-hatched by pharmaceutical company payments; GPs get freebies, gifts and what not. As a result, we know that the NHS drugs bill is bigger than it need be, but we know, too, that the British pharmaceutical industry is still world-class.

Would it be outrageous if, as the Department of Health is now pondering, GPs' offices were sponsored? The answer is probably not. The services provided by GPs are already diverse. As

this week's Audit Commission report found, some are using the freedom of fundholding to good effect. Nurse sponsorship might have the effect of further differentiating community medicine. Down that road lies increased inequality of provision. Sooner or later that becomes dangerous in a service the essence of which is predictable standards of service for all comers.

Only a hair-shirt puritan (they still exist in numbers in the trade unions and the health and education hierarchies) objects to the principle of sponsorship. It is the practice that needs watching. It becomes worrisome if it leads to unacceptable variation in basic standards of public service provision. Health and education are not homogeneous; they can and ought to differ in local circumstances. Sponsorship ought to be part of that "natural" variation. But parents in Devizes and Davyhulme, like patients in Barking and Bassettlaw, retain a right to expect uniformity in the core of what schools and doctors provide.

Bad manners

O ffended by some breach of motorway etiquette, a driver leaps from his Land Rover and stabs the offender through the heart. That is not how the people who drive Land Rovers used to behave. To this extent, Dr Digby Anderson, of the Social Affairs Unit, is right. Manners are declining.

So what's the solution from the Digby School of Etiquette? Polish your shoes – it will teach you self-discipline. Urinate only in public toilets marked "Ladies," or "Gentlemen" (never Men or Women). As for dress codes: no suits in supermarkets, no tracksuits on trains, and no denim jeans anywhere.

Doesn't Digby realize that so much outfit changing requires the clean clothes and free time that only an unpaid wife can facilitate? Such desirable creatures are now as rare as common sense in a Social Affairs Unit pamphlet.



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Complex route to graduate tax

Sir: Yvette Cooper's analysis of the issue of funding of higher education ("Why students should pay fair", 22 May) assesses the points well, with one exception.

There is an implicit assumption in the argument for a progressive tax as a percentage of graduate earnings: that for such a tax to be "fair" the differential earnings must be a direct result of the "education privilege". Clearly, other factors have an effect, for example hard work, ability, fortunate opportunity. Higher earners are already paying tax on differential earnings gained for these reasons.

The observation that it is unfair that a teacher and a merchant banker would pay the same contribution to their education is only true if the incremental opportunity they have each gained is different. Clearly this could not be the case for individuals on the same course at the same university. However, the logic of this argument would lead one to the extremely complex and subjective route of "pricing" courses and universities.

MARK HIGGINBOTTOM
London SW4

Sir: Yvette Cooper is right to argue for a progressive graduate tax, so that those who earn more after graduation pay back more than those who earn less, but I am not convinced that she (and the Labour Party) goes far enough. Why not "invite" all living graduates to contribute towards a graduate tax? Those of us who had a privileged higher education in the days before student loans were invented have also had the personal benefits from this, financial and cultural.

In my 26 years as a university teacher, I have never seen such a large segment of students in really crippling financial circumstances as now. It has moved far beyond the odd hard case or feckless peer drunk to hitting the majority of students severely.

ZANDER WEDDERBURN
Edinburgh

Sir: Labour's proposed student loan system could and should be improved. When I was a student at Berkeley and Harvard in the late 1960s and early 1970s I, like many of my friends, took out at least one student loan, to be repaid once we had graduated, entered employment and were earning well above the level of the minimum wage.

At that time the best-known feature of the Federal student loan programme was that if you became a teacher you only had to pay back half the loan. For a political party that claims to give a high priority to education, adopting a similar approach would be little more than common sense.

GEOFFREY PERRET
Beverley, East Yorkshire

Sir: It seems that the Labour Party has based its policy on student maintenance on the assumption that all students are just out of school, with a lifetime of work ahead of them. Will students graduating in their forties, fifties, sixties or even seventies be given 20 years to pay back their loans?

ANDREW BELST
University of Wales
Cardiff



"This morning the British ambassador handed a note to the German government, stating that unless we heard from them by eleven o'clock, a state of war would exist between us. I have to tell you that no such undertaking has been received"

British Council: a selective judge

Sir: Those in the private sector who labour to promote Britain and the English language overseas know the British Council to be rather more of a restrictive censor than a conduit for contemporary British culture and ideas.

Sir John Hanson's comment ("Cultural ambassadors face curb on global crusade", 21 May) that the profile of the British Council is "a very small one in Britain" is telling one. The Council imposes its own selective judgement on taste and standards, representing only organisations and activities that it "recognises".

The Council promotes its own view of what British culture should be and not the culture that actually exists in this changing society. To most people in Britain the British Council is simply a rather vague overseas operation which banks in the reflected glory of the past.

The Council does not have a monopoly on high-mindedness: in the private sector we feel very confident in promoting Britain as an integral part of our business interests, which in my case include language and management training in Britain and internationally. We work to encourage tourists and students to come to Britain in order to learn and enjoy our country and its language. This is the real world of creating export earnings, ensuring cultural relevance and representing Britain as it is.

The Council's £13m government grant would be better spent on the artistic and cultural fabric of Britain on theatre

companies and galleries, on the film industry and the environment.

The work of promoting Britain should be left to those who are the true representatives of British contemporary culture, language and history; those who "market" Britain professionally and with integrity and who are happy to take the financial risk as well as the reward attached to their work.

Rather than this unaccountable, self-proclaimed arbiter of taste...

ROWAN CARSTAIRS
Managing Director
General Education Group
Guildford, Surrey

Sir: Your leader article of 21 May ("Wanted: a modern British patriotism") regrettably does not mention the British Council.

The Council is a "very small one in Britain" as I saw in operation last year at the 1995 Beijing Conference for Women. The Council there represented a place where women overseas could go to learn what was being done in their field in Britain.

The Council I saw was clear that its task was to bring, in this case, women together across international boundaries to share experiences for the mutual benefit of all parties. Britain included. It is a great pity that it is so hard to put a price on the social and political benefits of international learning and exchange.

The Foreign Office exists to sell Britain's policies and wants others to see us. The DTI exists to promote what we produce. The British Council's work is different: it is as much about learning from

others as marketing our own cultural heritage. We gain respect overseas by presenting ourselves honestly and as a country with something to learn from cultural exchange. From what I saw in China, the British Council understands that very well.

SARAH BOOTH
West Kirby, Merseyside

Prison regimes at risk

Sir: The saddest feature of the current prison scene so powerfully described by Polly Toynbee ("How long before Howard's prisons burst?", 22 May) is that, until the last year or so, the Prison Service was making tremendous progress.

Jails today are unrecognisable from the conditions obtained in the late 1980s. The Service deserves much greater public recognition than it has ever received for the speed with which recommendations in the Woolf report were implemented. And performance since the Prison Service became an agency has been first-rate, notwithstanding the obsessive interference of Home Office Ministers.

Much of this is now at risk. It is inconceivable that prison regimes can be maintained when the prison population is rising so fast, and when perhaps one-tenth of the Service's staff will lose their jobs over the next three years. Indeed, the Prison Service's newly-published Corporate Plan reveals that the average time prisoners

spend in purposeful activity has already fallen by four per cent.

STEPHEN SHAW
Director
Prison Reform Trust
London EC1

Retailers' power over fair pay

Sir: Tim McGirk is right to point out that in many instances workers in the Indian garment industry, like Mohammed Hassan, are by local standards comparatively better off than workers in alternative industries ("Where hope begins with slave wages", 20 May).

This is also applied to neighbouring Bangladesh and its mainly female garment industry workforce. However, this is no reason to cut towards improving Mr Hassan's life and the lives of the millions of other garment industry workers worldwide.

The employment rights of garments workers in the informal sector are issues which could be addressed through localised government reforms and legislation – retailers, suppliers, manufacturers, governments and the international community all have a part to play in the fight for garments workers' basic rights.

Far from calling for industry to stop buying clothes from factories with bad working conditions, Oxfam wants positive action to improve and strengthen the industry in India and elsewhere.

Retailers such as Marks and Spencer, who this week have announced such a strong increase in profits over the past year, hold the economic power in the supply chain. They are being positively challenged to take steps which could vastly improve workers' basic rights – steps which would require only a relatively small amount of extra attention and extra expenditure.

It is time for the retailers to prove they care as much for the basic rights of the workers as for the growth of their already substantial profit margins.

MICHELLE STRATFORD
Oxfam UK and Ireland
Oxford

Other people's religions

Sir: In your extract from the sermon preached by Professor Akbar Ahmed in Selwyn College Chapel ("Two religious oases set of challenges", 20 May), you report him as saying: "A basic knowledge of Islam could be taught in Western schools so that children do not grow up in ignorance of it... Conversely, Western values, like democracy, need to be explained in Muslim schools."

Surely Professor Ahmed has his ideas mixed up. If a basic knowledge of Islam is to be taught in non-Muslim schools, then it is a basic knowledge of Christianity that should be taught in Muslim schools.

The Rev K P BULLOCK
Penrhyn Bay, Gwynedd
Wales

Paying for world monuments

Sir: In his article ("Clogging to the Wreckage", 10 May) about the World Monuments Watch – a programme of the World Monuments Fund in New York launched with support of \$5m over five years from American Express – Adrian Dantzig is mistaken about how this grant is being used. He writes that the sum "must have been eaten up by organisational and marketing costs" and by "bungy journalists".

In fact, of American Express's grant of \$5m, 90 per cent (\$4.5m) is designated for and restricted to grants to historic sites. Only the balance will be used by the World Monuments Fund for administrative expenses, including those of public relations.

The World Monuments Watch was designed to identify one hundred historic sites each year as the most imperilled in the world and make possible new funding for as many of these sites as possible. The list has been envisioned to serve as a call to action to encourage corporations, government agencies and foundations worldwide to come to the aid of imperilled historic sites. No single organisation can save the world's cultural heritage, but the response we have witnessed so far to the World Monuments Watch programme gives us every reason to move ahead with optimism.

BONNIE BURNHAM
Executive Director
World Monuments Fund
New York

Latin lovers

Sir: Paul Vallely writes of the "incense and Latin brigade", and says that the "foycys" will be sad to know that Archbishop Kelly sometimes sings the whole Canon of the Mass in English ("A popular priest to incense the foycys", 22 May). Perhaps he does not know that the documents of the second Vatican Council (which "liberals" are forever quoting), whilst permitting the use of the vernacular, expressly and explicitly state that the Latin language and the Latin liturgy should be preserved.

This position has been repeatedly upheld by every Pope since the Council, so we "foycys" are in good company. It is precisely the failure to observe the clear intentions of the Council which has angered the "traditionalists" and caused the distressing rifts in the Church. It is indeed strange and amusing to see how the ecumenism of the "liberals" stops short abruptly when they are contemplating anyone within their own Church who takes a different view from their own.

G B SILBER
London N14

Sir: Paul Vallely implies that those who want Latin and incense in their worship are intransigent conservatives. I like Latin in my worship and English too if it is good English. I also like the use of the ancient symbol of worship called incense. Basil Hume said "every liturgy should have dignity, order, beauty, an awareness of the presence of God." Latin and incense help to provide these along with other languages and sacramentals. Likening them has nothing to do with being conservative or progressive.

LAWRENCE SCOOCH
Workington, Cumbria

polemic

'The right to divorce is more important than many civil liberties including freedom of speech and freedom to vote'

Polly Toynbee takes on Melanie Phillips and the traditionalists over divorce and the family



Melanie Phillips: 'It's easy to pillory people who believe in the value of self-restraint and altruism' Edward Sykes

Is the freedom to divorce destroying civil society, or is it more essential than freedom of speech? Melanie Phillips, a columnist with the 'Observer', and Polly Toynbee of the 'Independent' disagree in a correspondence of letters on the subject.

26 April 1996

Dear Polly,

It is odd to be writing this letter to you across the chasm of thinking that divides us. Odd because although we are both working mothers and for years colleagues at the *Guardian*, we now find ourselves on opposite sides in this great debate about the family. What makes it so explosive is that the family is about not living as an atomised individual. Yet we live in an individualistic culture which sets personal happiness as our highest goal. The family sets extremely inconvenient limits to that individualism. Most people still aspire to a traditional family life, in which they marry and raise their own children. But more and more people are rejecting the limitations of loyalty, fidelity, duty and responsibility that such a life entails.

You know as well as I do the statistics showing the burgeoning rates of divorce, cohabitation, babies born out of wedlock. These trends are to be regretted because of the damage they entail both to individuals and to our civic fabric. As these trends unfold, more and more commentators, academics, journalists, politicians are becoming players, through their own lives, in the drama of the fragmenting family. Partly for this reason, the conclusion that "the family isn't deteriorating, only changing" is not reached from a dispassionate examination of the evidence. Time after time, I have observed ostensible policy discussions about the family which lightly camouflage a justification of personal experience. It is a discussion that is ludicrously – politically polarised, with defenders of the traditional family pilloried as reactionaries. True, people like myself wish to "conserve" values and structures without which I think we cannot live in a civilised way. But that doesn't make us any more reactionary than those green conservationists who wish to protect the physical environment from the depredations of selfish individualism. Being green is laudable; defending the moral ecology is beyond the pale.

My starting point has been the damage caused to most children by the fracturing of their home life. Of course, some children from intact families have troubled home lives. But children from fractured families do worse in every area of life, relatively speaking, than those from intact families. This has been amply demonstrated in research studies here and in the US. Yet I have seen this evidence regularly distorted and ignored by people who usually turn out to be justifying personal circumstances about which they feel guilty. "Do these people want unhappy

parents to stay together?" an angry academic once asked me about advocates of the traditional family. His unprofessional tirade only became intelligible once I discovered that he was going through a messy and acrimonious divorce.

This is a struggle between adults who want the freedom to live as they please and the interests of children who need stability, attachments and security. The idea that marriage break-up is good for children because it brings conflict to an end is demonstrably false. I don't believe that all marriages must endure whatever the circumstances. I am merely alarmed that people have become far too casual about relationships, that commitment has been redefined as a transitory arrangement which can be ended for adult convenience, without reference to the consequences for children. Not all children from fragmented families are harmed, but the dice

after divorce so long as adults behave in a civilised way.

My mother was divorced twice; I was brought up with assorted half-siblings and we all saw each other regularly. My father and his wife visited often.

I think I had a rich and fulfilling childhood with a father and stepfather, neither of whom counted much in comparison with my all-important mother. The structure of the family, as seen by politicians peering through the lace curtains, doesn't much matter. What matters is the quality of consistent love, care, attention and security the children grow up with.

Now you may say that it is more likely that a child will receive love and security from a stable family, with its two natural parents. But what can anyone do to force people to stay married? Unless you propose some moral Cromwellian revolution it does not seem you will persuade people to return to a life where marriage is destiny. Good people make hon-

ing to get them to stay together. Yours ever, Polly.

3 May 1996

Dear Polly,

As I recall, "fun, fun, fun" is precisely what you have so persuasively advocated. Unfortunately, though, this can have consequences for others which aren't so jolly. Divorce does not merely liberate people who are dreadfully unhappy. It sanctions opportunistic behaviour, including walking out on the family in pursuit of personal fulfilment, leaving behind a devastated spouse and children, or breaking up someone else's marriage.

Divorce should be available for those whose marriages really are intolerable. But the problem is we're redefining intolerability to include the merely less than perfect.

You hope shame is a thing of the past. But I think people should be ashamed if they cause pain and misery to other people. Are you really saying that if people cheat on their spouses, abandon their children or help to break up someone else's family they should feel no shame? That's tantamount to saying people should kiss goodbye to a moral sense. I don't want to force people to stay married. Maybe the fragmenting family is an irreversible social revolution. But it's being fuelled by the fantasy that people can have all the benefits of marriage without the hard work. To support children, we should support marriage – precisely the purpose for which it was invented.

With best wishes, Polly.

5 May 1996

Dear Melanie,

I can't help chuckling at your tone of voice. I feel like the bad girl called into the head's office to explain "fun". I detect in your writing a grim moral fortitude, in which the vale of tears is to be struggled through with little expectation of happiness. It is not the view of life I would wish to hand down to my children. I would urge them to reach out for more, because so much more is offered – great happiness, even brief moments of immense joy.

If I were unhappy married you would, I suppose, urge me to put up with it for the sake of the children. But they would then feel the weight of a loveless and quarrelsome marriage – a sad model for them, condemning them with the sense that they should be grateful to their unhappy parents for staying together.

In real life people rarely separate without great pain and years of unhappiness. Your picture of people casually sauntering out of marriages in search of instant sexual adventure is largely untrue.

Yours ever, Polly.

6 May 1996

Dear Polly,

It's so easy to pillory people



Polly Toynbee: 'Exhorting people to stay married is splitting in the wind of social change' John Lawrence

who believe in the value of self-restraint and altruism. So horing, isn't it, while you romantically buckle your swash. It is possible to have a good time and be responsible! Selfish behaviour causes pain and sometimes harm to vulnerable people and therefore people should think twice before behaving in such a way. Is that really so unacceptable to you? I'm staggered by your equation of responsibility with personal misery. I am concerned with the happiness of children; for most (not all) children in voluntarily disrupted families, being brought up without a father, or a succession of "fathers", is a recipe for maladjustment.

With best wishes, Polly.

8 May 1996

Dear Melanie,

Self-restraint and altruism are not boring but they are sometimes misplaced. Lifetimes can be wasted in self-sacrifice that turns out to have done no one else much good. How much hot air is wasted in Parliament exhorting people to stay married – splitting in the wind of social change. They should be seeking practical remedies instead. Policy makers should give attention to the far more fruitful business of helping all children of divorce to do as well as the best. I think your grin and bear it message will go the way of Canute's feet and I'm tempted to send you a pair of galoshes.

With very best wishes, Polly.

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Farewell to a jazz beacon ... and to part of my youth

This week I was saddened to hear the news of the departure of an American broadcaster whom I once venerated above all others. I refer not to Paul Gambaccini's move from Radio 3, but to the death of Willis Conover.

Willis Conover, whose passing was not widely noted in the British press, worked for the Voice of America in the days when the Voice of America really was a beacon of light shining out into beleaguered Eastern Europe etc, back in the Fifties and Sixties.

He presented a programme every night called the *Voice of America Jazz Hour*. That's all he did. For an hour he played music from the latest jazz releases and talked a little and then said goodnight. He talked quite slowly, slower than Paul Gambaccini though not as slow as the most stately of all broadcasters, Alastair Cooke, because, for all Willis Conover knew, nobody he was talking to had English as their first language.

Nobody in America knew who he was. You couldn't hear him in

America. The *Voice of America* did not shine its beacon of light and hope on the benighted American people. Only in the rest of the world was it heard.

So when Willis Conover walked the streets of Washington DC he walked unnoticed, but when he landed in Poland or Czechoslovakia he was met by huge crowds. He was, as the *Herold Tribune* noted the other day, the most famous American in the world, except in America, where he was unknown.

Forty years ago, when Soviet Communism seemed to have a healthy future and looked to be won by buying a few shares in jazz, it was the music of protest, of the dissident shareholder. Rock'n'roll was still only a juvenile delinquent noise but jazz had everything a rebel needed – it was dirty, clever, American, socially unacceptable, thrilling and mysterious.

In America, it was the music adopted by Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation. In Europe it was the music adopted by people who murmured and thought rebellious thoughts.

For a time it was even against the law in Russia to listen to the pro-

gramme, and the same was nearly true in the Kingdon household in North Wales.

The *Voice of America Jazz Hour* didn't start until 11pm, or midnight when the clocks changed, so I had to stay awake a long time to hear it. I would switch on my wireless very softly, and with the speaker right next to my ear, I would hear the end of the previous programme and the pregnant announcement: "This is AFN Munich". (It took me years to work out that stood for American Forces Network.) Then a pause, then Willis Conover saying "This is Willis Conover in Washington DC with the *Voice of America Jazz Hour*". Then an hour of bliss. Then sleep, and a haggard late rising, and my parents threatening to take my radio away if I didn't go to sleep earlier ...

It was through Willis Conover that I heard my first Thelonious Monk and Horace Silver, and Bill Evans, and Art Blakey, and Gerry Mulligan, and Miles Davis, and all those guys who in the late Fifties were ahead of everyone.

I couldn't believe my luck. Every



Miles Davis

Whoever had the idea of beaming the *Voice of America Jazz Hour* to Europe was a genius, because when Willis Conover came on the air and said that he would now play the latest Horace Silver LP, millions of people all over Europe knew they were about to listen not just to Horace Silver but to something free, something unobtainable, something forbidden.

So when Willis Conover came to Poland to take part in jazz festivals, he was greeted by thousands of cheering Poles as a hero, thus baffling the Polish and American governments simultaneously.

For a time it was even against the law in Russia to listen to the pro-

night I was listening to records which were just out in the American shops, so fresh that they wouldn't be available in Britain for months yet.

When I first went to university, as the Sixties dawned, I may have been the first person in the UK to hear via Willis Conover the sounds of the bossa nova, as pioneered on the Stan Getz LP *Jazz Samba*. The impact on me was delirious. I bored everyone silly with talking about it, but as they had no idea what I was talking about, they drifted away from my presence rapidly.

A year later *Jazz Samba* came out in Britain, and one track, "Desafinado", even hit the charts. My friends were ecstatic. They thought it was great.

"This is the stuff I was telling you about last year," I moaned, with all the impact of Billy Bunter announcing the imminent arrival of a postal order. Happy days.

And now Willis Conover is dead. And so is a chunk of my youth. Thanks for all that jazz, Willis, and sorry I never wrote to say so.

the commentators

Firms need to wise up to their intellectual assets

There are valuable resources inside people's heads – but companies must learn how to retain them

The past few days have seen a sudden surge in the share price of high-technology companies. Just yesterday one such company, BTG, reported a loss of more than £2m, but the price of the shares rose on the news that it had negotiated 52 licensing agreements. The company owns the know-how for products that range from a new gearbox being tested by Toyota and Ford, through a rheumatoid arthritis peptide now entering clinical trials, to daily disposable contact lenses licensed to Bausch & Lomb. Anyone who bought the shares a year ago when the company came to market would have seen the value of the investment rise sevenfold.

Now one can dismiss this as an example of the power of fashion in financial markets, the "animal spirits" noted by Lord Keynes, and I guess there is something in that. But it is also testimony to the value that markets put on ideas, for the worth of this firm is in the intellectual property it has developed. The assets, measured in conventional accounting terms of property, factories and so on, are tiny;

the real assets are what goes on in people's heads.

But companies, in the main, are terribly bad at realising that they have to manage these assets. Two examples. I was talking, some months back, with the personnel department of one of the world's giant oil companies. They pointed out that if one added up the salaries they would pay to each year's crop of graduate trainees through the whole of their careers, the annual investment commitment they were making would be at least £3bn. Even for them that was a lot of money. The amount of time and thought they would put into investment in physical capital of that size was enormous. Yet each year they committed themselves to this investment in human capital with a tiny fraction of that thought.

The other example is a Swedish insurance company, Skandia, which has probably gone as far as any in assessing and trying to build its stock of human capital. I spent a day at its offices last month, where it was pointed out to me that if, say, physical assets were equivalent to only a

quarter of the company's market value, no less than three-quarters of the value must lie in intellectual property. So the company had a fiduciary duty to shareholders to manage the three-quarters just as effectively as it managed the quarter.

How a company applies this rationale is of course another matter. Both these companies were at least trying to develop these non-physical assets and that is wholly to their credit. But we have all seen firms that proclaim in their advertisements and annual reports how important their employees are – and then proceed to "downsize", sacking half of them. "Downsizing" was an American invention and has been duly imported to the UK. But before you think this is a phenomenon unique to Anglo-Saxon economies, note that the country in which downsizing is currently happening most savagely is Germany, where there is tremendous concern that companies are getting rid of their most experienced employees in an effort to cut costs.

Indeed, throughout the developed world there is this curious paradox: intellectually, companies



HAMISH MCRAE

Companies proclaim employees' importance – then 'downsize'

accept that the knowledge and experience of their staff is an important asset; yet in practice, when faced with the need to cut costs, they usually end up paying redundancy fees to get rid of these assets.

The willingness of companies to get rid of people is echoed in their willingness to dispose of business divisions. The nagging doubt that many people have had about the wisdom of aggressive downsizing has

recently been reinforced by the recantation by one of its chief advocates, Stephen Roach.

As our sister paper, the *Independent on Sunday*, reported earlier this month, Mr Roach, chief economist at New York investment bankers Morgan Stanley, now believes that the relentless cost-cutting of American corporations was bad for business. If you compete by building, you have a future," he said. "If you compete by cutting, you don't." He added that "slash and burn" restructuring was not a permanent solution.

Of course he is right. Trouble is, for many companies failure to cut costs would simply mean going out of business. This week, the new chief executive of Daimler-Benz, Jürgen Schrempp, survived an angry shareholders' meeting, thanks to the fact that since he had taken over in May he had shut down or sold most of its loss-making divisions. He had closed AEG, disposed of Fokker, and was about to sell the holding in Dornier. That was slash and burn with a vengeance.

But at least Daimler-Benz made this decision on the basis of hard financial figures. When companies downsize their headcount, they do so on the basis of fewer measured facts. This gives a due to the seeming paradox that they know what they ought to do, but note the less frequently do the opposite.

The conventional explanation, advanced by people who for whatever reason are suspicious of the market system, is that financial markets are too short-termist: they demand good quarterly results and care little about the long-term health of the company. This view, popular in the Sixties and Seventies, when it was used as an argument for state intervention, has recently enjoyed a new burst of popularity.

But examples such as BTG surely point in the other direction: that financial markets are prepared to put very high values on firms that develop their human capital. Often investors can be very "long-termist" in their perceptions, because they are happy to back companies with good long-term prospects, even though in the short term these are losing money.

I think the better explanation is

that most companies are still very bad at measuring and developing human capital. They don't know what they have got, and they have poor mechanisms for measuring and rewarding employees' performance. They value political skills, promoting people who are good at presenting ideas (or taking the credit for them), rather than the people who do the work. Because they don't know the real value of their people, they reward them in a haphazard way; and when it comes to curbing costs, they frequently get rid of the wrong people. They do this, not because they are stupid (though they may be); they do it because they have not developed the tools to enable them to be intelligent.

This is surely a much more important debate than the one about short-termism. It is an international concern, not a domestic one. The commercial world knows a great deal about running physical assets well: it can run car factories or supermarkets with great efficiency. But it is only just beginning to learn how to manage human assets: how best to use the minds of clever people.

Lord Taylor is retiring, but the constitutional struggle between judges and government will continue – even under Labour

This fight will go to 15 rounds



PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES
No successor will bring back judicial conservatism

There will be signs of relief among Conservative politicians – notably Michael Howard, the Home Secretary – that fresh talent is poised to take over two of the most senior judicial posts in the land. The retirement of Lord Taylor from his post as Lord Chief Justice will cause regret among many in the Establishment, not least because ill health has forced him to retire early. But the Chief has become a thorn in the side of the Government, as testified by his caustic attack yesterday in the House of Lords on Mr Howard's plans to introduce mandatory heavier sentencing for a range of repeat offenders.

Ministers will hope that those judges who are now expected to win advancement will give them an easier time. Mr Howard will certainly be aiming to cool the wave of attrition he has fought with the judiciary since he took over as Home Secretary three years ago. Those hopes centre first on Sir Thomas Bingham, the Master of the Rolls, who is expected to be named as the new Lord Chief today. After all, he has been far more restrained than Lord Taylor in airing his views on the sentencing issue. He is also remembered for giving Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, the benefit of the doubt over the use of public interest immunity in the arms-to-Iraq affair.

The other name in the frame is the liberal Lord Woolf, who is due to return from the House of Lords to take over the vacated position of Master of

the Rolls. While famed for his inquiry into the Strangeways riots, which painted such a poor picture of prison conditions, he is not given, ministers might comfort themselves, to the kind of confrontational approach that made Lord Taylor so difficult to handle.

Nevertheless, it would be a serious mistake to assume that Lord Taylor's retirement marks a ceasefire between the judges and government. Anti-Establishment in their own differing ways, neither of today's expected appointees should be expected to usher in an era of judicial conservatism.

The reason for the fact that conflict will continue to rage at the very heart of the British system of law and government. Unlike in the United States, there is no strict separation of powers in the UK between the judiciary, the legislature and the executive. Nor is there a supreme court to test whether legislation passes muster against a written con-

sstitution or bill of rights. In practice this means that the three strands of public administration – the courts, the government and parliament – invariably find themselves at odds, straining at boundaries between them that are set by no more than convention. Therefore, a significant section of the judiciary, law lords past and present, legitimately but contentiously enter, the parliamentary debate.

Quite apart from the structural instability in the constitution, there is no reason to believe that either of today's appointees will shrink from showing judicial creativity alongside an unquestioned judicial independence. Both Bingham and, through a root-and-branch review of the civil justice system, Lord Woolf have put their fingers on the nightmare that is represented by pursuing disputes through the courts, the costs of which have become, to quote Sir Thomas, "scandalous".

Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor, wants to press ahead with breaking down the Bar's last great monopoly of exclusive rights of audience in the Crown Courts. In Sir Thomas he is likely to find an ally. Sir Thomas has already demonstrated his ability to stand up to the massed ranks of his own profession. Such firm judicial hands will be needed as large numbers of lawyers squirm and protest at attacks on their traditional ways of doing things.

Sir Thomas has already evoked the ire of the *Daily Mail*

for suggesting that judges might formulate new privacy rights for individuals if gov-



ernment failed to do so. Both he and Lord Woolf have called for the European Convention on Human Rights to be incorporated into UK law, a move that Sir Thomas, a dissenter in the *Spectator* fiasco, has said would restore Britain to its former place as an international standard-bearer of liberty and justice. Lord Woolf has pioneered the idea of a director of civil proceedings with power to initiate and sponsor judicial review cases when it is in the public interest for the courts to scrutinise official decisions.

Neither of these towering figures can be expected to be bothered about upsetting the Conservatives. They cannot be assumed to be Tories. (Lady Bingham campaigned for the Liberal Democrats at the last election) nor do they fit neatly, or much at all, into the kind of conservative legal Establishment that governments, of whatever political colour, always crave. Both would be as impervious to dictats from a

Labour government as they would be from a Conservative one.

Once the Labour Party gains power, however, the battles between government and judiciary are likely to be of a different kind to the onslaught delivered yesterday by Lord Taylor, Labour's Lord Chancellor in waiting. Lord Irvine, who has adopted the most restrictive view possible on the role of judges in challenging official decisions, in a recent speech he attacked Lord Woolf for breaking the constitutional imperative of judicial self-restraint.

He levelled similar criticisms against Sir John Laws, a high court judge who, like Woolf, is a former treasury counsel with long experience of acting for governments. Even the left-of-centre judge Sir Stephen Sedley has been chastised by Lord Irvine for suggesting that the will of Parliament could be subject to some higher set of fundamental principles.

Lord Irvine offers a spirited defence for his championing of parliamentary supremacy: that

he is radical politician, not a judicial radical. While he has reaffirmed his commitment to incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into British law, he has attacked the way that the European judges decide cases brought under its terms. That leads to a conclusion that things are

going to get worse between ministers and judges before they get better. The source of the problem lies in Lord Irvine's judicial philosophy, which rests on the belief that legislative, executive and judicial functions of government are distinct and separate.

We can be assured that in the

absence of better mechanisms for checking abuses of executive power, ministers and officials under a Labour government will not be tossing away their copies of *The Judge Over Your Shoulder*, the Whitehall document on how to avoid the judicial lions' den, for a long time to come.

Expert advice from Cowboy and Co

The Government is cynically failing to protect immigrants against fraudulent 'consultants', writes Bernie Grant

John Bullied, a convicted sex attacker posing as an immigration expert, was jailed for eight years in April for raping women who sought his advice. He had lured his victims by advertising an immigration legal service in the newspapers.

Many of my constituents, expecting proper legal advice and representation, have paid hundreds of pounds to bogus "advice services" and "consultancies". The standard of work done by these organisations is appalling. Letters to the Home Office are full of spelling mistakes and crude, ungrammatical English. I repeatedly see cases where vital representations have not been made or where the advice given is wrong. In some, false information has deliberately been given to the Home Office without the client's knowledge.

The result can be catastrophic. Often there is very little a good immigration solicitor can do to mend the damage caused by bogus advisers.

Bogus advisers easily disappear without trace to set up

under a different name in another area. Their clients have no means of redress. One of my constituents, a young Nigerian, approached a "consultancy" for help. He was told not to worry, his case would be sorted out. He found himself arrested and facing deportation. A friend tried to contact the so-called consultant. He found the office closed down with no forwarding address or telephone number.

Typically, cowboy organisations demand a substantial sum of money on account before agreeing to take a case. Later they say the case will succeed only if further representations, and further payments, are made. They can often sound very plausible to a lay person who will rarely have the confidence to challenge an expert. And of course it is in these advisers' interest to drag the case out as long as possible to make more money.

Not all immigration consul-

tances and advice services are crooks – some work to a high standard. The difficulty is distinguishing between the good ones and the bad. There needs to be regulation to ensure minimum standards of education and training in this field.

Last year the High Court granted an asylum seeker the right to reapply because of the poor handling of his original application. Mr Justice Sedley pointed out that the court was familiar with the injury to the rights of applicants caused by unqualified immigration advisers: he stated that a system of control would be to the advantage of all concerned in immigration cases.

The Home Affairs Select Committee has recommended the registration of immigration and asylum advice agencies. The Law Society and the Immigration Law Practitioners Association are in favour. The Government knows of the

need to improve the standard of immigration advice offered to vulnerable people and provide a complaints system. Registration schemes operate in other countries: Australia, for example, has a Migration Agents Registration Scheme, which has operated a legally binding code of conduct since 1992.

Yet the Government has now refused to implement a registration scheme of any kind. In answer to a recent parliamentary question, the Home Office minister Timothy Kirkby bluntly informed me he had "no plans" to do so. As the Government clamps down on immigration in the run-up to the election, it suits its interests if there is little expert help available for those who fall foul of its removal and deportation drive. Exploitative immigration advisers have become an integral part of a system that is shoddy, inhumane and a ghastly lottery.

The writer is Labour MP for Tottenham.

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COMMENT

A painful, necessary process at the Exchange

Often it has seemed that the only people not to realise that the once pre-eminent Stock Exchange needs to cut its copious cloth to a very different City environment are the incorrigibles who actually inhabit that grim, concrete tower on Throgmorton Street. From its enviable pre-Big Bang position at the heart of the City establishment, enjoying – in the Square Mile at least – unquestioning respect and authority, the Exchange has over the past 10 years had a rocky ride, leaving it unsure of its role as the financial markets changed around it.

Under Michael Lawrence, sacked so unceremoniously from his job as the chief executive in January, many of these delusions of grandeur lived on. True, Mr Lawrence did his bit in slimming this once bloated organisation. Numbers were reduced from 2,800 at the time of Big Bang to below 1,000. But what persisted was the arrogance of an organisation that failed to accept its importance had diminished, one that continued to believe it could boss big City firms around.

Typical of this was the frantic search for new sources of income in areas that brought the Exchange into competition with its members, to make up for the dramatic loss of revenues once Talisman was replaced from July onwards by Crest, the automatic settlement system. Those pretensions are gone now, out of the window along with Mr Lawrence. In its place is a much tougher commitment to transforming the Exchange

into the lean, mean machine the City of tomorrow requires. The atmosphere on the board is of all accounts transformed – gone is the sniping between the big City member firms and the Exchange's executive, watched in hair-tearing dismay by the Treasury.

The cost cuts to date are only a foretaste of what is to come. Looking to the end of the century, the strategic review being finalised by the Exchange proposes that costs be cut by a third. Adjusting to reality is a long and painful process.

Cable firms ready to repay investors

The UK cable industry has had a deserved reputation for poor marketing and sluggish growth, which has led inevitably to lacklustre performance on the stock market. Worse, there have been a few further jolts to the sector – like Labour's high-profile deal with BT, which looked like sidelining cable, or the big question marks surrounding number portability and BT's strong-arm competitive tactics in the marketplace for telephone services. As a result, the two biggest London-listed companies spent the back half of 1995 languishing far below their over-optimistic issue prices. Could that all be about to change? Most of the big operators have built more than half their networks, and are on schedule to complete the roll-out in the next few years. That has al-

lowed them to start thinking about how to convince the punter to subscribe. More money is being spent on promotion and marketing, and the penetration rates are beginning to bear the fruit.

True, cable TV subscription rates are still woefully low – barely more than 20 per cent of those who can subscribe actually do so. But the pay-to-basic ratio (the percentage of those customers taking the lucrative premium programmes like Sky Sport and the Disney Channel) is creeping up. Meanwhile, telephone penetration rates, at closer to 30 per cent, look far healthier, thanks to deep discounts on BT's standard rates.

The introduction of number portability this week in one of Nynex CableComm's franchises has got to be a good sign of better times ahead. All the independent studies show that many customers were reluctant to give up their old BT numbers, even to save money on their bills. By the end of the year, at least two, and probably all three of the listed companies will be offering portability.

Farther down the road, we are likely to see concrete proof of cable's obvious technical advantage – its broadband capability. When the cable operators bring their cable modems to market, Internet users will be able to tap into the world "network of networks" with great ease and at vastly increased speeds. There is huge growth still to come in the Internet market in the UK, and the cable industry will reap more than its share.

Telewest and Nynex, the leading operators, were far too aggressively priced when they came to market. It was assumed that the roll-out of cable in the UK would mirror US experience, where 40 per cent penetration rates were easily achieved even without the added bonus of being able to offer TV and telephony together. It did not.

But the sell-off last year was probably overdone, and the City is beginning to accept that fact. Telewest yesterday managed to raise £1.2bn in bank funds at attractive rates. Meanwhile, Kleinwort Benson has issued a research note to clients, arguing that a substantial re-rating may be in the offing.

With number portability, the Internet, digital TV and the critical mass that comes with a network 50 per cent in place, the cable industry is finally ready to pay back its patient investors.

Chill wind in the offing at C&W

Dick Brown, the American with the job of forging a coherent whale out of Cable & Wireless's loose federation of telecom alliances, will need to be rechristened the Yank with the Bank if he succeeds in making even a half-decent fist of it.

The rewards not offer for his job are truly mouth-watering: the basic salary may be a measly £650,000. But Mr Brown stands to double that under the obligatory bonus

scheme. Then, of course, there are the share options worth a cool £2.6m.

Perhaps it is just as well he is being incentivised so handsomely since, if chairman Smith is correct, the C&W management can no longer be stimulated by the threat of takeover. The failure of the BT merger showed, he says, that C&W is, to all intents and purposes, bid-proof, not least because all its licences around the globe depend on there being no change of ownership.

For all C&W's talk about the benefits of its federation, it remains hard to see how the whole adds up to more than the sum of the parts. The real goldmine – Hongkong Telecom – faces an uncertain future with the Chinese taking over next year and growth in traffic up the mainland depressed by Peking's no-nonsense approach to economic management.

Back at home Mercury looks to have got off the invalid's trolley only to run into a brick wall. Top line growth is in decline and if the trend continues, helped by a clobbering from the regulator Ofcom, it could stop altogether. Continental Europe may possess prime but all C&W has thus far got to show for its expensive foray into Germany is a £20m loss in three months from Veracom. If anyone was bold enough to bid it would be like "buying a block of ice that melts as you get your hands on it," says chairman Smith. But unless C&W decides to break itself into bits it is shareholders who will feel the chill.

London Stock Exchange looks for £50m savings

JOHN EISENHAMMER
Financial Editor

The London Stock Exchange is planning to slash costs by about a third as it transforms itself over the next few years into a "new lean, mean machine", in the words of one board member.

The board yesterday discussed proposals for the first stage in cost reductions, by some £30m from the current level of £160m, to take account of the big loss of income with the imminent introduction of electronic share settlement.

Some 250 jobs have already been earmarked to go as a direct consequence of the new Crest settlement system, which comes fully on stream next spring. Further out, however, the Exchange is planning for deeper personnel reductions.

The current workforce is about 940, down from a peak of 2,800 in the wake of the 1986 Big Bang deregulation.

The full scope of the savings are contained in a strategic review, looking forward to the role of the Exchange at the end of the century. To be considered by the board in July, it foresees the need to make efficiency savings well beyond the first stage in cost reductions required by preparing for Crest.

Sources spoke of the exchange aiming ultimately for savings of around £50m from its position today, or a reduction of about a third. The Exchange has come in for heavy criticism from some of its powerful member firms and the Treasury for carrying a cost base no longer suited to its shrunken significance in the City.

Presenting yesterday the financial results for the year to 31 March 1996, executives stressed the continued progress in achieving significant savings, at the same time as the exchange is about to complete the modernisation of its Sequence information and trading platform.

"Through our concerted efforts to control costs, coupled with sustained investment, we have laid solid foundations for a financially viable Exchange in the years ahead," the chairman John Kemp-Welch said.

The Exchange last year reduced underlying operating costs by nearly 9 per cent to £161m. The immediate challenge is that income of £196m will soon be reduced by £67m when Talisman, the settlement system currently run by the Exchange, is replaced by the new system introduced to London next year.

Automated Crest, independently owned by 60 financial bodies.

While much of the first round of savings will come from job losses and the end of the heavy investment spend required by Sequence, the longer term reductions in the strategic review will involve cost reductions across the board. "We are talking about a much better management of resources, getting the cost base right down while delivering a quality service to the market," said a source.

Separately yesterday, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, agreed in principle that market makers should continue to enjoy the privilege of exemption from stamp duty when the new system for dealing in equities is introduced to London next year.



Leaner and meaner: The London Stock Exchange, where at least 250 jobs will go as a result of Crest.

TUC calls for business and union compromises

BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

The union movement has abandoned any ambition to tie companies down to complex employment law, according to TUC general secretary John Monks.

Unions will continue to demand the introduction of a minimum wage, but would seek

to negotiate other minimum standards in a way which contributed to business success, Mr Monks told a City audience yesterday.

In a speech to a TUC-sponsored seminar on "stakeholding", Mr Monks said: "The way that European business leaders and trade unions have been able to talk sensibly and agree provisions for parental

leave show there is a middle way between deregulation and overly bureaucratic red tape. You can call it social partnership or stakeholding, or simply good old-fashioned British compromise but it offers the best hope for the future."

While he stressed the need to build on the British tradition of voluntary agreement, Mr Monks pointed out that Euro-

pean law was already forcing a middle way between deregulation and overly bureaucratic red tape.

You can call it social partnership or stakeholding, or simply good old-fashioned British compromise but it offers the best hope for the future."

He pointed out that despite the UK opt-out from the social chapter of the Maastricht Treaty, British-based groups were including UK workers on the councils.

Mr Monks acknowledged that the election of a Labour government would end the opt-out and increase the number of companies covered by the directive. All multinationals with 1,000 employees in the European Union with at least 150 in each of two, have to set up a council after 22 September on request from their workforce.

Without the opt-out, British employees would have to be included in the calculation.

The TUC leader coupled his call for compromise with a warning that there was growing dissatisfaction with the way companies are run in Britain. Many under-performed and under-invested and were under intense pressure from institutional investors to ensure a high share price, he claimed.

Investors pay highly for poor pension decisions

NIC CICUTTI

Investing in the wrong with-profits endowment or personal pension can lose tens of thousands of pounds off the value of an individual's savings, a new report showed yesterday.

Poor fund management performance and heavy charges levied on a range of savings products can almost halve the amount eventually paid out, according to Money Marketing, a weekly financial magazine.

Among the poorest performing life companies are many household names, including Britannia Life, Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance.

A 50-year-old man investing £30 a month into a Britannia Life personal pension until 65 would see his funds grow to just £13,753. Royal Insurance would pay £14,865, while Sun

Alliance's payout would be £15,988.

By contrast, the same amount placed with Norwich Union, Axa Equity & Law, Scottish Mutual, Royal London and General Accident would have yielded more than £21,000.

Beating them all was the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, which achieved returns of £24,669 over the same period.

The average performance among the 28 companies included in the survey was £19,000, with most bunched within £1,000 on each side of that amount.

The annual Money Marketing report is one of the most detailed surveys of companies that sell with-profits policies, covering pensions, mortgage-endowments, endowments and savings schemes.

It shows that company charges, including the commissions paid to advisers who sell their products, also take large chunks out of policyholders' savings.

A 30-year-old male, saving £100 a month with the life and pensions arm of Guardian Royal Exchange, would receive £196,279 at retirement age, one of the worst returns.

Assuming exactly the same inflation rates, investment returns and increases in contributions, the same saver would get £247,000 from Medical Sickness or £241,076 from Equitable Life when retiring at 65.

The difference in payouts between top and bottom-ranked charging companies could mean a drop in a saver's pension of around £90 per week.

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business

Problems Storehouse can't shelve

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

The market is getting worried about Storehouse, the BHS and Mothercare retailer that also includes the Blazer menswear chain. Since Keith Edelman joined as chief executive three years ago, the group has concentrated on all the right things.

It has built margins rather than chasing sales, kept the lid on costs and sorted out the nuts and bolts of the business, including reducing the number of suppliers and shortening lead times. Distribution costs have also been addressed and will fall by a further £5m this year.

It is a similar strategy to that employed by John Hockner at Burton which has also seen its fortunes improve. Storehouse shares have responded to the treatment, rising from around 200p at the time of Mr Edelman's appointment to yesterday's 327p. The 21 per cent hike in profits to £110m shows that the fruits of his work are coming through.

But the City is already looking to the next stage. With margins re-built and store refurbishment progressing, management must now drive sales which have been flat for more than five years.

Like-for-like sales fell 2 per cent across the group last year, with sales in the main BHS and Mothercare chains down. Mothercare had a particularly weak second half on the back of a weak clothing range and problems with product availability. Even these uninspiring figures are flattered by another stellar performance from Storehouse's overseas stores. Even including new openings, the group's UK sales fell by more than 3 per cent last year.

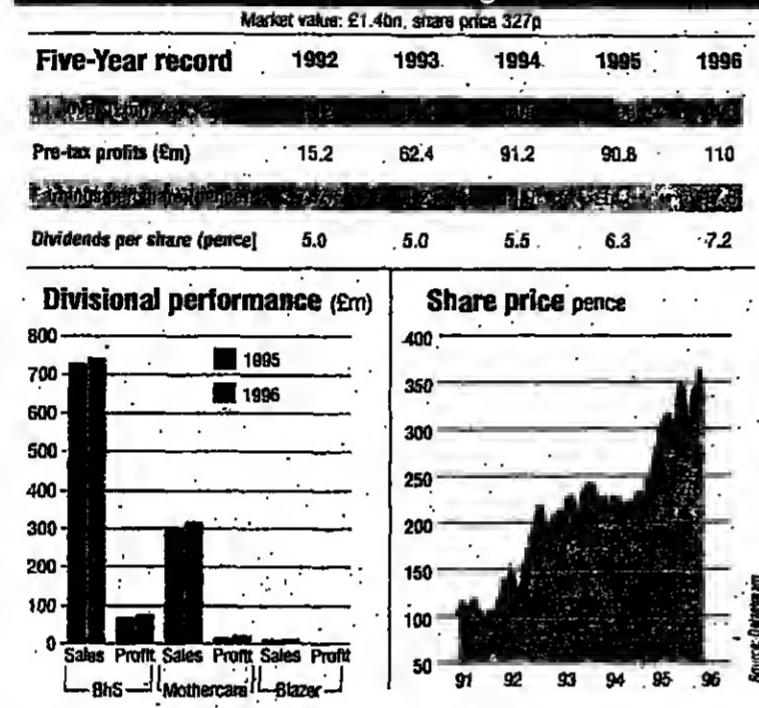
Though management is saving that boosting sales is the priority, this will be no easy task as advertising expenditure will be cut this year after the high spends of recent years. The company hopes store refurbishments and the gradual maturing of new openings will be enough to kick-start sales.

There is also much to do at Children's World, the out-of-town group acquired from Boots earlier this year for £62.5m. Next year's accounts will include exceptional charges of £16m-£18m to cover the integration programme which will include the closure of the Nottingham head office in September and possibly the closure of some stores.

The store names will not automatically change to Mothercare, even though the company perceives it to be a stronger brand. Mothercare World is a possibility, though the re-branding will not start until next spring.

The overseas stores are going great guns, with franchise sales having increased by 29 per cent to £78m.

Storehouse : at a glance



BZW is forecasting profits of £125m this year, which puts the shares on a forward rating of 16. They are no more than a hold and there is probably better value elsewhere.

Morland's Hen lays golden eggs

Shareholders in Morland, the Oxfordshire-based brewer, who helped fight off the bid from Greene King nearly four years ago at 450p a share have at last been rewarded for their patience. Having underperformed for most of the intervening period, this year the shares have at last broken decisively through the 550p barrier and now stand at 628p, up 9p.

Renewed bid speculation has helped, fuelled by the authorities' apparently more relaxed attitude to consolidation in the industry. But Morland has also shown itself adept at managing the business and is beginning to prove itself with acquisitions.

Yesterday's half-year figures to

March revealed pre-tax profits soaring 30 per cent to £6.09m, swollen by last year's acquisition of Unicorn Inns and a group of outlets from the Chapman family.

The aggregate cost of £25.1m for the 23 pubs in question raised eyebrows at the time, but Morland is already making the assets work. Margins have been raised by up to 3 per cent at Unicorn and between 10 and 12 per cent at Chapman. More importantly, despite the drag caused by the rights issue which accompanied the Unicorn deal, earnings per share have climbed an underlying 8.3 per cent to 15.7p in the latest period.

Meanwhile, the existing estate is continuing to grow, with profits up 10 per cent on unchanged numbers of outlets. Morland is continuing to swim against the trend of falling beer volumes generally, with its Wig & Pen and New & Cucumber formats aimed at younger and female town-centre drinkers.

But the big question for Morland is whether it can continue the huge success of Old Speckled Hen, the up-market ale which was relaunched in draft in 1991. Volumes have rocketed

from virtually nothing to 40,000 barrels-a-year on the back of guest beer tie-ups with the big brewers and the launch of canned and bottled versions. Since Carlsberg was signed up in April, all four of the brewing giants are now aboard, along with all the main supermarkets in the take-home trade.

The hope is that rolling out the brand to more stores and overseas, including the US, will take up the slack and Morland has doubled the capacity of its Abingdon brewery to 200,000 barrels in anticipation. In the meantime, profits of around £14.4m this year would put the shares on a forward p/e of 17. Hold.

Go-Ahead keeps motoring

Go-Ahead Group, the Newcastle-based bus group, has not let its March profit warning divert it from the acquisitions route. Yesterday's £46.1m deal to snap up London General, one of the capital's biggest bus franchisees, shows that the group retains the confidence of the City.

Shareholders are asked for £19.5m in a one-for-five placing and open offer at 290p a share fully underwritten by Hill Samuel. Despite gearing rising to 290 per cent after the deal, the bank is also making available a borrowing facility of £32.7m, which should leave plenty of slack for further acquisitions.

With its existing London Central operation, the latest acquisition will give Go-Ahead 18 per cent of the metropolitan market and a commanding position south of the Thames, which is fertile ground for bus operators given the poor Underground coverage.

Vigorous cost-cutting by the existing management has raised operating profits before exceptions from £3m before the original buyout at London General in November 1994 to £7.67m in the year to March. That puts an earnings-enhancing exit multiple of eight on the deal, once cash balances of £7.3m are stripped out, but it reflects the risk of owing a company a fifth of whose routes are put out to tender every year. Go-Ahead reckons it can offset the risk with cost savings from merging the two London businesses. Those could be worth at least £850,000 a year and there are still other operators in the capital to be bought.

If profits rise from a forecast £11.5m this year to £12.5m in 1995-96, the shares, up 30p to 340p, are on a forward p/e of around 10. Good value.

Building society big boys strap on the bovver boots

CITY DIARY

JOHN WILLCOCK

Euro96 is upon us, and with it that perennial problem, the football hooligan. The police's Football Intelligence Unit is hard at work collating lists of English, German and Dutch yobs who are expected to cause trouble. Some of the worst aggro could, however, come from the building society sector. Andrew Messinger, the newly appointed chief executive of West Bromwich Building Society, has been invited to the quarter-finals by Mike Jackson, his counterpart at Birmingham Midshires – the notoriously aggressive outfit that has been stalking West Brom recently with a view to a merger. Mr Jackson has also invited Dr John Wriggworth, the extrovert strategy supremo at Bradford and Bingley – which itself would like to act as a "white knight" for West Brom. Perhaps a deal or two will be struck over the half-time interval. If not, a heavy police presence may be required.

Americans have always despised British beer as being flat and warm. It is time to suffer through during holiday days here, like rain and bad coffee. All that has changed courtesy of Morland, the Abingdon-based brewer led by chief executive Mike Watts. The share of the US beer market taken by "amber ale", the American name for bitter, has grown to 4 per cent over the last three years. Mr Watts claims that his company's bitter, Old Speckled Hen, is leading the charge. Tastings of this hitherto have been held in Boston, Chicago and San Diego. Now if Mr Watts could just get to work marketing our beer...

The Bank of England prides itself on setting a good example to the City. It publishes a full annual report and accounts, for example, even though the Bank is not a plc



Fitter of a share: This year's winner of the Singer & Friedlander Company Investor Show's best-performing share prize is Andy Crossley (above, centre), a fund manager at Invesco Asset Management. Mr Crossley correctly predicted that Cortech International, the pharmaceutical company, would be the best-performing share from exhibitors at last October's show, over the following six months. He received a Methuselah of champagne from Marc Cransie (left), of S&F, accompanied by John Brecken of Insuperior, which organised the exhibition. Cortech's share price rose from 101p to 383p in six months.

and has no duty to do so. It may seem churlish then to note that the Bank's 3,800-odd staff and six executive directors receive inflation-linked pensions – but that there is no mention of this in the 1996 report. Some actuaries estimate that taking account of inflation can increase the annual cost of a pension by around a third. According to the Greenbury report on directors' remuneration, at least the details of directors' pensions should be included. A Bank spokesman says: "We seek to apply the spirit of Greenbury. There's an awful lot of information in there [the report]." Not about index linking, though. Perhaps next year.

A canny Manhattan property developer has installed a special high-capacity cable in his latest apartment block, which allows tenants to access the Internet 55 times as quickly as the fastest popular modem. Gregory Selgado, sales director for Real Renters, says the East Village building's communal cabling has proven such a hit with tenants that they are prepared to pay well above market rates – \$1,700 a month for a one-bedroom apartment, plus up to \$115 to the Internet provider – which Mr Selgado owns. Where America leads, the world follows. It cannot be too long before City traders will be able to play the markets on the Internet from the comfort of their Docklands lofts.

P&O lands £250m contract in China

P&O yesterday announced that it had won the biggest construction management contract so far awarded in China, worth £250m. Reuter reports.

The shipping and construction company is to oversee the construction of a 50-storey office tower in the centre of Shanghai alongside two 22-storey residential towers.

The deal was signed at one of two ceremonies in the city attended by Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, as part of his trade mission to China.

The second contract was the establishment of a joint venture between Crosstroll, a British textile company, and a Shanghai company, to produce textiles.

Lord Sterling, chairman of P&O, said in London that the company had had links with the region for nearly 15 years, and the group's decision to open new offices in Shanghai was "the clearest possible sign of our commitment".

Heseltine is leading a delegation of 270 business people to China, drumming up business for British companies.

Since arriving in Shanghai, he has met the mayor and leaders



On the waterfront: Booming Shanghai is proving profitable for UK firms. Photograph: FT

awarded are those for large engineering processes and in them British companies will have every opportunity to play a significant part in the development of the airport, even though France has won the design contract.

He was speaking after an official briefing about the Pudong New Area where the airport, costing £650m, is to be built ready for opening on the 50th anniversary of the People's Republic of China in 1999.

Shanghai has chosen Aeroport de Paris to design the airport but has not signed a formal contract the value of which will be a small part of the total cost.

"There will be various tendering processes and in them British companies will have every opportunity to play a significant part in the development of the airport," Mr Heseltine said.

Among the contracts to be

awarded are those for large engineering work, air traffic control and airport management. He said UK firms were very strong in radar and communications.

Mr Heseltine is due to meet China's President Jiang Zemin today in the southern city of Zhuhai, near Hong Kong.

A Chinese government spokesman said China's leaders and Mr Heseltine agreed this week that both sides wanted closer co-operation to guarantee Hong Kong's smooth transfer to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.

Up to 30,000 investors have already applied to enter the Scot Am trust, which ingeniously allows investors to put up to £50,000 into a Personal Equity Plan in a single year, and to obtain tax-free income on the full amount, by setting up a split-level trust.

Only £6,000 will be invested in income shares in the trust and £44,000 will be invested in warrants which can be converted into capital shares. Only the income shares are treated as part of the PEP but they receive all the dividend income free of tax from the £50,000, which will be fully invested in leading UK equities.

After seven years the capital shares will be entitled to 150,000 or £44,000 indexed to the retail price index, whichever is the higher, and will incur no capital gains tax at all if inflation is less than 1.85 per cent.

The trust was announced last month and was immediately seen as a deliberate attempt to outflank the PEP rules, which limit the amount any investor

Scottish Amicable lobbies MPs over ban on trust

CLIFFORD GERMAN

Scottish Amicable, the Glasgow-based insurance group, is lobbying MPs to overturn the Inland Revenue's shock decision on Wednesday that the Amicable Strategy Trust, Scot Am's innovative £240m Personal Equity Plan, contravenes the tax rules and will have to be scrapped.

MPs can demand action in

Parliament to overturn the Inland Revenue, but Parliament is now in recess and MPs will not return until 3 June. Moreover, the public offer is due to close on 10 June, Scot Am's general manager for product development, Gavin Stewart, said yesterday.

Scot Am is also seeking an urgent meeting with the Treasury, but in the meantime the Royal Bank of Scotland has been instructed not to process any more applications or cash any more cheques from investors.

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business

Regulators should beware when the cap doesn't fit

One of the biggest smash and grab raids ever, they called it. When Ofgas chief Claire Spottiswoode pronounced last week on the prices to be set by the British Gas subsidiary TransCo, the company hit the roof.

Sids – the little shareholders – were marshalled to express their distress about their dividends. And British Gas howled about job cuts in their thousands, and the threat to future investment.

So here we go again, another round in the ongoing controversy about utility regulation. Whatever the regulators do they provoke a fuss. If they go too easy on the companies – as they undoubtedly have done since privatisation – the public and politicians scream about excess profits. If they are too tough, they jeopardise the future safety of critical industries. Either way they and the regulatory system they operate have become the targets of fierce criticism.

It seems strange then that Ms Spottiswoode should decide to reject what promised to be the grand solution to her problems. Lost amid the controversy last week came the news that Ofgas had investigated an alternative regulatory approach for TransCo, based on sharing profits rather than capping prices.

British Gas was keen, the Labour Party was interested, the experts lined up in support – but Claire said no. Could she have made a foolish mistake? Certainly the existing price-capping framework isn't working too well. Under the RPI minus X system, the regulated companies are allowed to raise their prices by the rate of inflation (RPI), minus some amount (X) determined by the regulator to reflect projected cost savings. Any extra savings the company makes to the meantime, it can keep



INDUSTRY VIEW

YVETTE COOPER

– or pass on to shareholders. Supposedly this provides management with incentives to look for new improvements, and the consumer the benefits when prices are revised again in the next review.

It all sounds sensible enough. The trouble is it has been a disaster in practice. At the heart of the matter is what economists call the "asymmetric information problem".

Companies know far more than the regulator about the future costs they will face, and the real prospects

The result is that the regulator has to keep returning to the companies, clawing back their profits and incentives. If there are to be any incentives for companies at all, Mr Helm argues, the public need a different interest in the accumulation of abnormal profits; they need a share.

Of course the regulators can make mistakes to both directions. A supposedly regulator assumes that the companies are always lying, and can always make much tougher cuts than they claim. Whoa the price cap

sized. The Labour Party flirted with the idea, and Ms Spottiswoode signalled her interest, commissioning detailed work from outside consultancies on the logistics of profit-sharing for TransCo.

One variation – the Helm version – is to set a price cap, then split the unexpected profits 50-50 between customer and shareholder. The version considered by Ofgas was "sliding scale regulation". Instead of setting just one price cap, the regulator provides the company with several alternatives.

If prices are low, shareholders can

keep most of the extra profits (because low prices mean customers have already had their cut). On the other hand, if prices are high, then the customer gets a bigger rebate from profits. Hence the sliding scale.

Either way the regulator has a safety net against unduly gloomy forecasts by the company, whilst unexpected and damaging changes in costs which surprise the regulator can easily be accommodated.

Yet for all these arguments, Ofgas ditched the idea. One concern for it clearly was the fear that profit-sharing, by reducing the cash that firms can keep, would reduce their incentives to make improvements, too. But this is a weak objection. So long as political pressure forces them to push prices down and cut profits back, there will be no incentives under price-capping, anyway.

And, as a report that was recently commissioned by Ofgas points out, shareholders will quickly revise the incentive structure for managers if they fear they are not maximising profits under the new arrangements.

Ofgas had other more technical

concerns, however, if it feels any form

When the price cap is too severe, sobs of pain will be dismissed as crying wolf

for savings. But they can cheerfully offer pessimistic forecasts during the review and keep those savings for profits instead of price cuts.

Excess profits – especially on the scale that our recently privatised utilities have reported over the last seven years – will always provoke a political and public outcry and send the regulator scuttling back to review earlier mistakes. But the more frequently the regulator rewards, the less the incentives to managers.

Dietrich Helm, director of Oxford Economic Research Associates, points out: "The politics of energy are such that the public will never allow abnormal profits to pile up over five years."

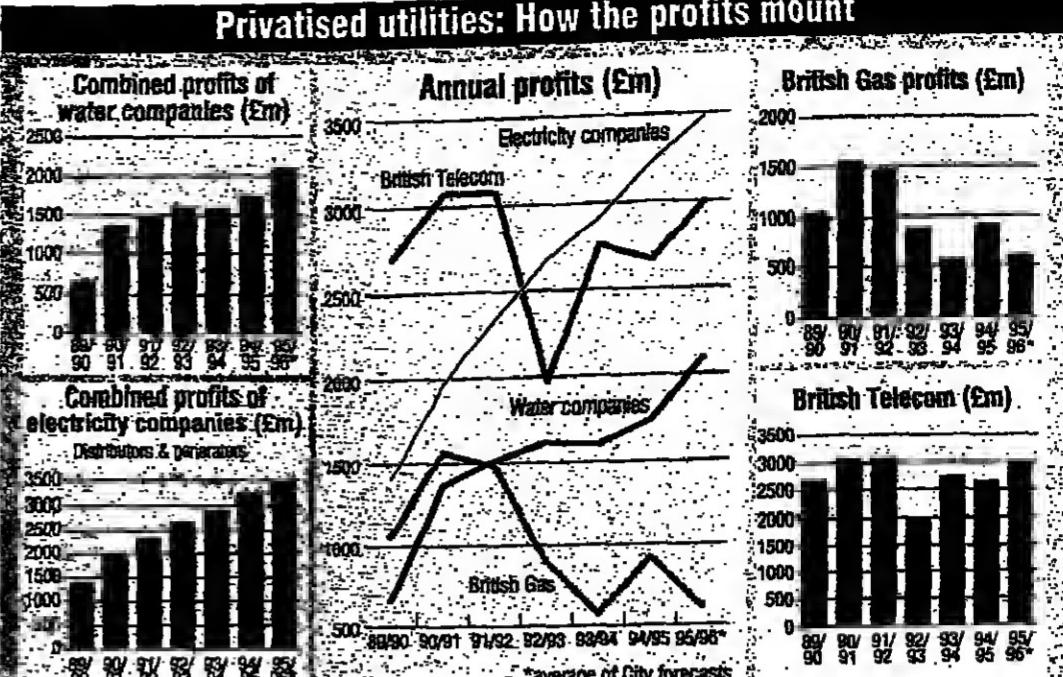
The regulators can only give utilities the space they need to properly invest in the future if they feel they have a way to deal with excess profits, and ensure companies are not pulling a fast one.

Enter profit-sharing. Under this form of regulation, extra profits (or losses) are shared between consumers and shareholders, rather than kept entirely for the management and shareholders to enjoy (or endure). Papers were written, conferences held, research commis-

sioned. The Labour Party flirted with the idea, and Ms Spottiswoode signalled her interest, commissioning detailed work from outside consultancies on the logistics of profit-sharing for TransCo.

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will be more appropriate." What Ofgas calls "error correction mechanisms" aim to allow the prices to respond to changes in the utilities' costs that the regulator had not anticipated – either because the company proved to be wrong or because external circumstances changed.

It may be right. And it has probably around two years to prove it. If a Labour government is elected, if on the other hand the regulators can't devise a framework that provides incentives, protects the industry's future and keeps the customer happy, they should brace themselves for change.

Mr Stakeholding himself, John

Country	Spot	1 month	3 months	Spot	1 month	3 months	Spot	1 month	3 months
US	1,612.8	9.7	22.1	1,000	—	—	6,491	—	—
Canada	2,613.2	11.3	50.7	1,680	2.1	2.0	8,932	—	—
Germany	2,442.1	11.3	26.4	1,628	—	—	8,932	—	—
France	7,699.4	15.0	40.5	4,285	1.2	2.0	8,932	—	—
Japan	2,557.9	15.0	21.4	1,649	5.4	5.4	8,932	—	—
ECU	1,233.6	15.1	45.4	1,222	7.3	23.5	5,294	—	—
Denmark	8,099.6	17.5	13.3	525.4	8.5	16.6	20,553	—	—
Netherlands	2,006.1	6.5	19.7	1,741	10.7	24.2	8,932	—	—
Ireland	9,065.1	10.6	24.1	1,580	4.7	12.7	4,058	—	—
Norway	9,978.6	16.4	32.9	3,293	4.7	10.8	4,206	—	—
Spain	18,144.2	26.8	72.9	2,834	23.7	64.7	8,339	—	—
Sweden	1,357.7	9.5	23.4	6,840	9.8	23.4	25,310	—	—
Switzerland	19,162	66.5	186.4	1,263	37.3	10.7	8,932	—	—
Australia*	19,047	20.3	87.5	1,281	19.1	21.1	5,074	—	—
Hong Kong	1,071	10.1	10.1	77,255	2.2	12.2	5,074	—	—
New Zealand	2,772.2	4.0	4.0	2,442	4.4	4.4	6,040	—	—
Saudi Arabia	5,672.8	0.0	0.0	4,354	2.7	9.4	2,435	—	—
Singapore	2,363.0	0.0	0.0	4,046	41.0	43.0	10,361	—	—

Forward rates quoted high are at a discount; low to high are at a premium.

*Dollar rates quoted as reciprocals.

For the latest foreign exchange rates call 0891 123 3033.

Calls cost 3p per minute (cheapest rate) 4dp after dinner.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Country	Sterling	Dollar	D-Mark
Country	Spot	1 month	3 months
US	1,612.8	9.7	22.1
Canada	2,613.2	11.3	50.7
Germany	2,442.1	11.3	26.4
France	7,699.4	15.0	40.5
Japan	2,557.9	15.0	21.4
ECU	1,233.6	15.1	45.4
Denmark	8,099.6	17.5	13.3
Netherlands	2,006.1	6.5	19.7
Ireland	9,065.1	10.6	24.1
Norway	9,978.6	16.4	32.9
Spain	18,144.2	26.8	72.9
Sweden	1,357.7	9.5	23.4
Switzerland	19,162	66.5	186.4
Australia*	19,047	20.3	87.5
Hong Kong	1,071	10.1	10.1
New Zealand	2,772.2	4.0	4.0
Saudi Arabia	5,672.8	0.0	0.0
Singapore	2,363.0	0.0	0.0

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Calls cost 3p per minute (cheapest rate) 4dp after dinner.

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sport

Edwards tops drug test list

Athletics

Jonathan Edwards and Kelly Holmes, Britain's most successful athletes of 1995, were also the most tested for drugs, according to figures released yesterday.

They were each tested four times at meetings and twice out-of-competition by the International Amateur Athletic Federation. All were negative, along with 62 other British athletes.

Linford Christie and Tony Jarrett also had six tests, with five for Colin Jackson and four for Mick Hall, Dalton Grant, Steve Smith and Paula Radcliffe. The figures were issued by the British Athletic Federation.

Edwards and Holmes were also among 159 athletes tested by the BAF's out-of-competition programme for the first quarter of this year. All were negative, former Radford, executive chairman of the BAF, said: "These figures show we are right to be proud of our testing programmes."

"They are superior to those in any other British sport and probably to any other athletics nation. Our athletes clearly wish us to be vigilant and these results indicate that we are being set."

■ Bulgarian world indoor 400 metres bronze medallist Daniela Georgieva has been banned for three months after testing positive for the steroid methanolon.

TODAY'S NUMBER

1,205

The number of footballs that will be given to children in Stockton, California, thanks to international drug smugglers. The balls were among an impounded batch of 1,300 from Pakistan, of which 95 were found to contain heroin.

Relaxed approach for Montgomerie

Golf

TIM GLOVER
reports from Wentworth

The Volvo PGA Championship, which gets under way over the Burma Road today, is the European Tour's first £1m event but Colin Montgomerie saw no reason to break into a sweat. About the most arduous thing he did yesterday was to have a haircut, although you might have thought that was superfluous after losing his head last week.

Monty went into the final round of the Benson and Hedges International with a three-stroke cushion that he managed to turn into a hairsbreadth by scoring 84. He actually went round The Oxfordshire at Thame, battered by 40mph winds, in 82 strokes but was penalised two shots for kicking sand in a bunker. Officials decided he had infringed the rule about testing the hazard and he denies doing any such thing.

"When I handed in my card I said I'd got an 82 but Andy McFee said 'I think we'll have

to make that 84'." McFee was tournament director at The Oxfordshire and it was debatable on the final day whether the course was playable. "We've got a new name for McFee," Monty said. "Magnus Magnusson... I've started so I'll finish."

Had McFee abandoned the final round Monty would have been the winner. His barber had suggested yesterday "something for the weekend, sir?" Monty would probably have asked for decent weather.

"There was nothing wrong with my golf," he said of his 84. "It was just the conditions that ruined the event. I was hitting hard for three days and the last day was just frustration."

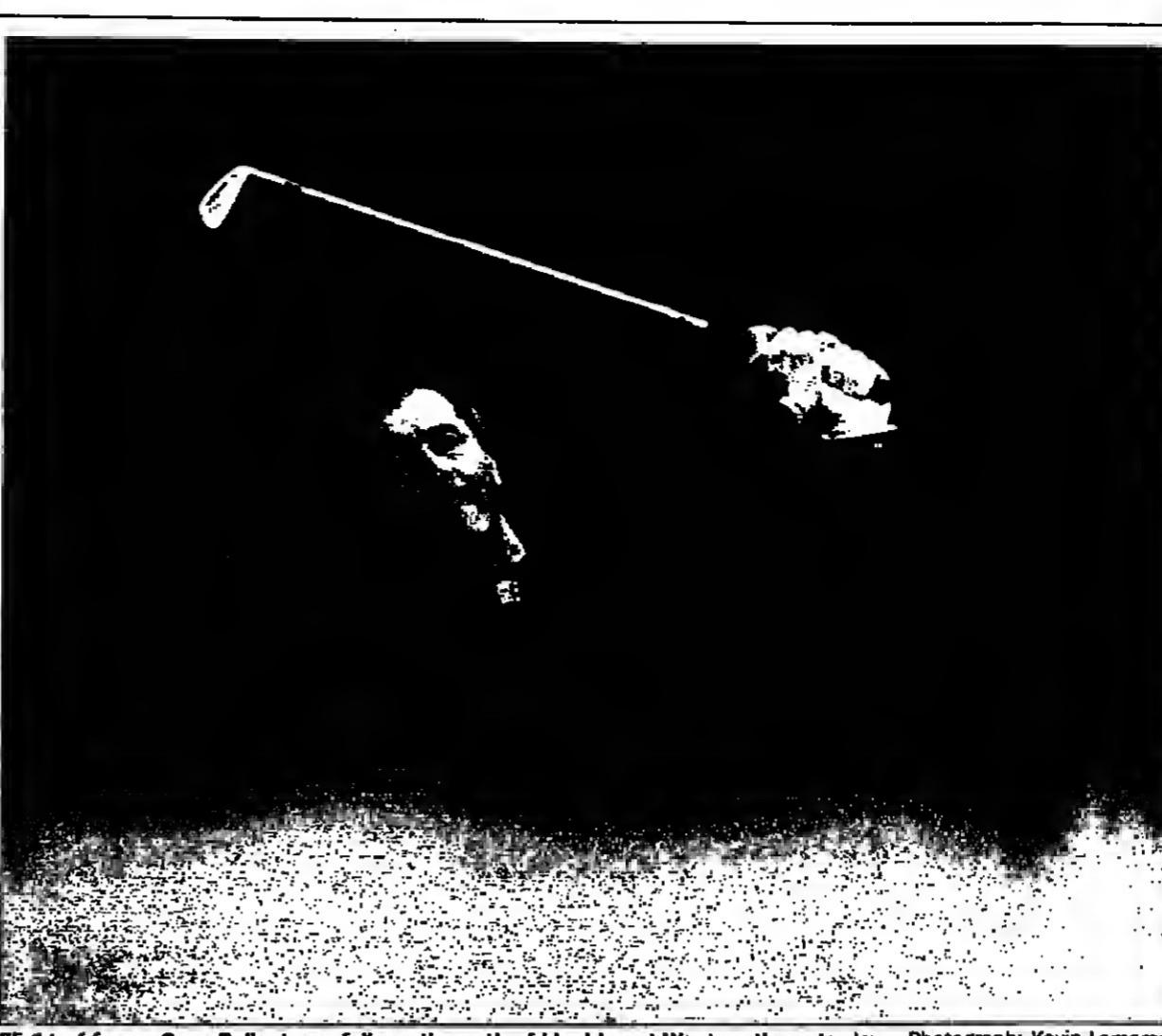
Montgomerie has never won the PGA Championship, regarded in Europe as the "fifth major", but he has an impressive record at Wentworth: five top-10 finishes in the past six years. Gary Player was quoted as saying: "The more I practice the luckier I get." Monty takes the opposite view. He tees off today without having played a practice round.

"You want to go into a field

of this quality as fresh as you can," he said. "I'm happy with my game, I know my way around here. I think many players overdo it. That is one of the reasons why I have been successful."

Ian Woosnam, the leader of the Volvo Ranking, was similarly frustrated at the B and H. He has been drawn here with Nick Faldo and Stephen Ames, the man from Trinidad and Tobago who triumphed at The Oxfordshire. Woosnam and Faldo have won the PGA here and other course and distance winners include Seve Ballesteros and Bernhard Langer.

The biggest change I've noticed in Seve," Faldo said, "is that his shoes are dry." This was a reference to Ballesteros' new-found accuracy in that he is no longer missing every fairway. Yesterday Langer, the defending champion, was presented with a pair of golden shoes by Adidas, his sole companions for 10 years. In that time he was walked more than 15,000 miles and won more than \$10m (£6.6m). It works out at about \$700 per mile.



Flight of fancy: Seve Ballesteros follows the path of his drive at Wentworth yesterday
Photograph: Kevin Lamarque

Bevan's class act falls short

Cricket

DAVID LLEWELLYN
reports from Canterbury
Yorkshire 261-5 v Kent

It was difficult to tell which expression was the more morose - that on the face of Michael Bevan after he had missed a ball from Kent's rookie seam bowler Nick Preston to mid-on, or that on the faces of the sparse crowd when they had anticipated at the very least a hundred.

Hampshire are rumbled by Durham

Round-up

Hampshire, fresh from a famous victory over the county champions Warwickshire at Edgbaston last week, were quickly brought back down to earth by Durham at Portsmouth yesterday, writes Adam Szczerz.

Simon Brown (4 for 49) took three wickets in his first three overs, while John Wood, back in the Durham side after a year's absence with a back injury, struck in his first over and finished with 3 for 52. Wicket-keeper Adrian Aymes (41no) and Cardigan Connor (42) led a slight recovery as Hampshire closed on 192 for 9.

Elsewhere on a rain-affected day Nasser Hussain responded to being overhauled by the England selectors with 81 for Essex at Derby, sharing in a stand of 158 with Darren Robinson (74). One of those selectors, Graham Gooch, was bowled by Devon Malcolm during a hostile opening spell. Essex ended the day on 225 for 3.

At Aberystwyth, Gary Butcher, son of the former Glamorgan opener Alan and younger brother of Surrey all-rounder Mark, made a defiant 73 but Worcestershire had the better of a day restricted to 54 overs. Piers Howell on 49 for 5 stumps.

At Horsham, Alan Wells stuck a fluent 92 and Bill Athey an unbeaten 70 to help Sussex reach 216 for 3 against Middlesex following Wednesday's washed out first day.

Gloucestershire v Worcestershire

Gloucestershire (3pts) have scored 248 for 5 against Worcester (2).

Worcestershire won

ESSEX First Innings

G A Gooch & Malcolm 17, D J Robinson & Kriket b Jones 74, P C White & B McCague 53, R J Blasby not out 13, J R Hobbs 12, A M Smith, C A Welsh 23, G S Corlett 22, Hossack 4-1-4-74; J Julian 7-1-25-2, Hossack 4-1-4-74; J Julian 7-1-25-2, Preston 7-1-25-0.

SURVEY P J Birrell, M A Butcher, R D Clarke, A J Hollacombe, Naseem Shahid 21, D M Ward, B P Johnson, J G Kennedy 16, B P Johnson, T E Jespionne, H O Bird and T E Jespionne.

Hampshire v Essex

S J Hume (10) have scored 222 for 9 against Essex (2).

Essex won

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

BRITANNIC Assurance County Championship	
(First day of four; 11.00 start)	
Kent v Warwickshire	
KENT (Warwickshire, 2pts) have scored 281 for 5 against Kent (2).	
Warwickshire won.	
YORKSHIRE First Innings	
A McGrath & Hooper b Preston 40, M W Vaughan & Hooper b McCague 40, C White & B McCague 50, M G Bascle & Loring b Preston 50, C White & B McCague 53, R J Blasby not out 13, J R Hobbs 12, A M Smith, C A Welsh 23, G S Corlett 22, Hossack 4-1-4-74; J Julian 7-1-25-2, Preston 7-1-25-0.	
SURREY P J Birrell, M A Butcher, R D Clarke, A J Hollacombe, Naseem Shahid 21, D M Ward, B P Johnson, J G Kennedy 16, B P Johnson, T E Jespionne, H O Bird and T E Jespionne.	
Hampshire v Durham	
PORTSMOUTH: Hampshire (2pts) have scored 352 for 9 against Durham (0).	
Hampshire won.	
YORKSHIRE v Essex	
S J Hume (10) have scored 222 for 9 against Essex (2).	
Essex won	
CRICKET SCOREBOARD	

Knight's flow checked by rain

MICHAEL AUSTIN

reports from Edgbaston
Warwickshire 60-0 v
Leicestershire

Nick Knight, the batsman ignored by England for the Texaco Trophy series, swiftly helped Warwickshire to restore their equilibrium yesterday after the champions lost to Hampshire in their first-class match.

Preston's maiden first-class wicket was that of Anthony McGrath, one of three fine slip catches for Carl Hooper during the day. After the rain there were further clouds for Yorkshire as McCague muscled in and hustled out Craig White.

and the one which did go to hand left it pretty quickly on its way to the perimeter rope.

He fell to Preston, trying to pull a shorter ball - the 102nd of his innings - having put on 128 for the third wicket with captain David Byas.

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Championship action for the past 11 months, but his recuperation was confirmed in a 42-ball innings, bringing 24 runs.

Alan Mullany tested Moles most, though the left-arm quick bowler cut one ball back sharply

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SPORT



CHINA 0 ENGLAND 3

Barmby and Gascoigne steal the show

Page 28

Lewis on the rampage for new England

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE
reports from The Oval
England 291-8 v India 96-5

It may have been a new-look England team that took the field at here yesterday, but it was two old hands, Chris Lewis and Graeme Hick, with more than a hundred caps between them, who put the home side into pole position. When rain stopped play for a second time, India needed another 196 from 33 overs today if they are to prevent the hosts from going one up in the series.

Hick, with a robust 91 from 102 balls, was the main reason England reached 291, though they gained impetus from the contributions of debutants Alastair Brown and Mark Ealham, whose 40 in 32 balls contained two mighty sixes.

But if Hick has shown a steady improvement since his international debut in 1991, Lewis has veered from the sublime to the ridiculous, sometimes in the same match. Yesterday his bowling was rarely anything but sublime, and his 4 for 29 – off six overs – is his best return to date.

It is rarely prudent to draw lasting conclusions from performances in one-day cricket. Even less so when the performer is Chris Lewis, a supreme talent, whose chief

ability since his international debut in 1990 has been to exasperate and delight team-mates and members of the medical profession in equal measure.

Last year, he managed just four days cricket with his second county, Nottinghamshire, before taking the rest of the season off with an injury to his hip. It was no great surprise when Lewis moved county again, this time to Surrey where in front of a full house yesterday he could do no wrong. Perhaps his talent has at last found a garden in which to blossom.

Taking the new ball, he received scant help from the other end as Sachin Tendulkar tucked in to some leg-stump strawberry moussettes as Cork persistently looked for outswings that simply was not there, and Cork, talented cricketer that he is, had to put up with the indignity of being replaced by Peter Martin after just two over.

Tendulkar was in brilliant form, clipping and driving with an ease and power that belies his short stature. A huge hooked six off Lewis's second over was conjured from nowhere.

With Vilank Rathore taking 15 off Martin's first over, India gained a momentum that England's more serious attempts earlier in the day failed to match. By hitting two pinch-hitters in the first three, the hosts managed only 31 for 1 off the first 10 overs. By contrast India were 50 for 2 up in the series.

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off five and looking set to finish the match off early.

It was then that Lewis began to make inroads. Rathore, having languidly picked up Martin of his toes, got himself in a tangle trying to do the same to Lewis and was palpably leg before. Judging by the celebration Lewis then performed, it is choreography and not cricket that has been keeping him busy over the past year.

Perhaps mirroring England's use of Neil Smith at No 3, India sent out Anil Kumble to join Tendulkar. Two balls later, it was being written off as a failed experiment as Hick clung on to a swinging edge at second slip.

Adopting Sri Lanka's no-sur-

render approach, Tendulkar continued to go for his shots when perhaps a period of re-trenchment would have served better. A heave across the line at Martin was enough to get Tendulkar pronounced lbw.

Lewis then produced a corker to dismiss Navjot Sidhu, and one almost as good to get rid of Sanjay Manjrekar, both balls coming back sharply off the seam. It was that movement that hampered the effectiveness of Brown in his free-stroking opening role, and he was dropped in the slips off his second ball by Rathore.

Swinging a hefty bat effectively requires room and the Indian bowlers gave none. With the occasional bounce and movement, life was never easy for the batsmen and both Michael Atherton and Graham Thorpe were caught behind off the moving ball.

No such excuse could be found for Brown, who was bowled hoikng across a straight ball after Smith had edged to Tendulkar at slip. But if Brown's downfall was reckless it paled beside Alec Stewart's, the Surrey skipper running himself out after pushing the ball almost straight back to the bowler.

All the while Hick was pacing an innings that contained six boundaries. In the end, the brilliance of England's late order denied him the century he deserved.

■ Lancashire have asked the Test and County Cricket Board to start disciplinary proceedings against Ray Illingworth following publication of extracts from his forthcoming book this week.

The Oval scoreboard

England won toss	
ENGLAND	
W/D A Atherton & Morgan b Prasad	13
41 min, 6 overs	37
A D Brown b Mithun	1
95 min, 52 overs, 4 fours	
N M I Stewart c Tendulkar b Mithun	17
13 min, 32 overs, 4 fours	
G A Hick c Manjrekar b Srinath	91
151 min, 102 overs, 4 fours, 1 six	
G P Thorpe c Tendulkar b Srinath	28
141 min, 31 overs, 2 fours, 1 six	
A J Stewart run out (judges)	0
7 min, 6 overs	
C L Lewis b Kumble	11
128 min, 23 overs	
M A Ealham b Kumble	40
141 min, 34 overs, 3 fours, 2 sixes	
C G Lovell not out	0
177 min, 23 overs, 2 fours, 1 six	
D G Corlett out	0
13 min, 2 overs	
Extr. 61, 101, w/o, 101	24
Total (8 wkt, 216 min, 50 overs)	281
Final: 10 min, 10 overs, 10 runs, 10 wkt, 100 min, 100 overs, 100 runs	281
6-175 (Brown, 7-252 (Ealham), 8-276 (Hick))	
Did not bat: P J Jones, 10-14-5 (Atherton), 11-2 (Brown), 12-19-0, 2-0-11-0, 2-0-14-11 (Prasad), 15-1-20-0, 16-1-20-0, 17-1-20-0, 18-1-20-0, 19-1-20-0, 20-1-20-0, 21-1-20-0, 22-1-20-0, 23-1-20-0, 24-1-20-0, 25-1-20-0, 26-1-20-0, 27-1-20-0, 28-1-20-0, 29-1-20-0, 30-1-20-0, 31-1-20-0, 32-1-20-0, 33-1-20-0, 34-1-20-0, 35-1-20-0, 36-1-20-0, 37-1-20-0, 38-1-20-0, 39-1-20-0, 40-1-20-0, 41-1-20-0, 42-1-20-0, 43-1-20-0, 44-1-20-0, 45-1-20-0, 46-1-20-0, 47-1-20-0, 48-1-20-0, 49-1-20-0, 50-1-20-0, 51-1-20-0, 52-1-20-0, 53-1-20-0, 54-1-20-0, 55-1-20-0, 56-1-20-0, 57-1-20-0, 58-1-20-0, 59-1-20-0, 60-1-20-0, 61-1-20-0, 62-1-20-0, 63-1-20-0, 64-1-20-0, 65-1-20-0, 66-1-20-0, 67-1-20-0, 68-1-20-0, 69-1-20-0, 70-1-20-0, 71-1-20-0, 72-1-20-0, 73-1-20-0, 74-1-20-0, 75-1-20-0, 76-1-20-0, 77-1-20-0, 78-1-20-0, 79-1-20-0, 80-1-20-0, 81-1-20-0, 82-1-20-0, 83-1-20-0, 84-1-20-0, 85-1-20-0, 86-1-20-0, 87-1-20-0, 88-1-20-0, 89-1-20-0, 90-1-20-0, 91-1-20-0, 92-1-20-0, 93-1-20-0, 94-1-20-0, 95-1-20-0, 96-1-20-0, 97-1-20-0, 98-1-20-0, 99-1-20-0, 100-1-20-0, 101-1-20-0, 102-1-20-0, 103-1-20-0, 104-1-20-0, 105-1-20-0, 106-1-20-0, 107-1-20-0, 108-1-20-0, 109-1-20-0, 110-1-20-0, 111-1-20-0, 112-1-20-0, 113-1-20-0, 114-1-20-0, 115-1-20-0, 116-1-20-0, 117-1-20-0, 118-1-20-0, 119-1-20-0, 120-1-20-0, 121-1-20-0, 122-1-20-0, 123-1-20-0, 124-1-20-0, 125-1-20-0, 126-1-20-0, 127-1-20-0, 128-1-20-0, 129-1-20-0, 130-1-20-0, 131-1-20-0, 132-1-20-0, 133-1-20-0, 134-1-20-0, 135-1-20-0, 136-1-20-0, 137-1-20-0, 138-1-20-0, 139-1-20-0, 140-1-20-0, 141-1-20-0, 142-1-20-0, 143-1-20-0, 144-1-20-0, 145-1-20-0, 146-1-20-0, 147-1-20-0, 148-1-20-0, 149-1-20-0, 150-1-20-0, 151-1-20-0, 152-1-20-0, 153-1-20-0, 154-1-20-0, 155-1-20-0, 156-1-20-0, 157-1-20-0, 158-1-20-0, 159-1-20-0, 160-1-20-0, 161-1-20-0, 162-1-20-0, 163-1-20-0, 164-1-20-0, 165-1-20-0, 166-1-20-0, 167-1-20-0, 168-1-20-0, 169-1-20-0, 170-1-20-0, 171-1-20-0, 172-1-20-0, 173-1-20-0, 174-1-20-0, 175-1-20-0, 176-1-20-0, 177-1-20-0, 178-1-20-0, 179-1-20-0, 180-1-20-0, 181-1-20-0, 182-1-20-0, 183-1-20-0, 184-1-20-0, 185-1-20-0, 186-1-20-0, 187-1-20-0, 188-1-20-0, 189-1-20-0, 190-1-20-0, 191-1-20-0, 192-1-20-0, 193-1-20-0, 194-1-20-0, 195-1-20-0, 196-1-20-0, 197-1-20-0, 198-1-20-0, 199-1-20-0, 200-1-20-0, 201-1-20-0, 202-1-20-0, 203-1-20-0, 204-1-20-0, 205-1-20-0, 206-1-20-0, 207-1-20-0, 208-1-20-0, 209-1-20-0, 210-1-20-0, 211-1-20-0, 212-1-20-0, 213-1-20-0, 214-1-20-0, 215-1-20-0, 216-1-20-0, 217-1-20-0, 218-1-20-0, 219-1-20-0, 220-1-20-0, 221-1-20-0, 222-1-20-0, 223-1-20-0, 224-1-20-0, 225-1-20-0, 226-1-20-0, 227-1-20-0, 228-1-20-0, 229-1-20-0, 230-1-20-0, 231-1-20-0, 232-1-20-0, 233-1-20-0, 234-1-20-0, 235-1-20-0, 236-1-20-0, 237-1-20-0, 238-1-20-0, 239-1-20-0, 240-1-20-0, 241-1-20-0, 242-1-20-0, 243-1-20-0, 244-1-20-0, 245-1-20-0, 246-1-20-0, 247-1-20-0, 248-1-20-0, 249-1-20-0, 250-1-20-0, 251-1-20-0, 252-1-20-0, 253-1-20-0, 254-1-20-0, 255-1-20-0, 256-1-20-0, 257-1-20-0, 258-1-20-0, 259-1-20-0, 260-1-20-0, 261-1-20-0, 262-1-20-0, 263-1-20-0, 264-1-20-0, 265-1-20-0, 266-1-20-0, 267-1-20-0, 268-1-20-0, 269-1-20-0, 270-1-20-0, 271-1-20-0, 272-1-20-0, 273-1-20-0, 274-1-20-0, 275-1-20-0, 276-1-20-0, 277-1-20-0, 278-1-20-0, 279-1-20-0, 280-1-20-0, 281-1-20-0, 282-1-20-0, 283-1-20-0, 284-1-20-0, 285-1-20-0, 286-1-20-0, 287-1-20-0, 288-1-20-0, 289-1-20-0, 290-1-20-0, 291-1-20-0, 292-1-20-0, 293-1-20-0, 294-1-20-0, 295-1-20-0, 296-1-20-0, 297-1-20-0, 298-1-20-0, 299-1-20-0, 300-1-20-0, 301-1-20-0, 302-1-20-0, 303-1-20-0, 304-1-20-0, 305-1-20-0, 306-1-20-0, 307-1-20-0, 308-1-20-0, 309-1-20-0, 310-1-20-0, 311-1-20-0, 312-1-20-0, 313-1-20-0, 314-1-20-0, 315-1-20-0, 316-1-20-0, 317-1-20-0, 318-1-20-0, 319-1-20-0, 320-1-20-0, 321-1-20-0, 322-1-20-0, 323-1-20-0, 324-1-20-0, 325-1-20-0, 326-1-20-0, 327-1-20-0, 328-1-20-0, 329-1-20-0, 330-1-20-0, 331-1-20-0, 332-1-20-0, 333-1-20-0, 334-1-20-0, 335-1-20-0, 336-1-20-0, 337-1-20-0, 338-1-20-0, 339-1-20-0, 340-1-20-0, 341-1-20-0, 342-1-20-0, 343-1-20-0, 344-1-20-0, 345-1-20-0, 346-1-20-0, 347-1-20-0, 348-1-20-0, 349-1-20-0, 350-1-20-0, 351-1-20-0, 352-1-20-0, 353-1-20-0, 354-1-20-0, 355-1-20-0, 356-1-20-0, 357-1-20-0, 358-1-20-0, 359-1-20-0, 360-1-20-0, 361-1-20-0, 362-1-20-0, 363-1-20-0, 364-1-20-0, 365-1-20-0, 366-1-20-0, 367-1-20-0, 368-1-20-0, 369-1-20-0, 370-1-20-0, 371-1-20-0, 372-1-20-0, 373-1-20-0, 374-1-20-0, 375-1-20-0, 376-1-20-0, 377-1-20-0, 378-1-20-0, 379-1-20-0, 380-1-20-0, 381-1-20-0, 382-1-20-0, 383-1-20-0, 384-1-20-0, 385-1-20-0, 386-1-20-0, 387-1-20-0, 388-1-20-0, 389-1-20-0, 390-1-20-0, 391-1-20-0, 392-1-20-0, 393-1-20-0, 394-1-20-0, 395-1-20-0, 396-1-20-0, 397-1-20-0, 398-1-20-0, 399-1-20-0, 400-1-20-0	